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How coming out helped one lesbian move beyond the shame of an eating disorder.
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Here's one gay Republican
who wasn't invited to meet with Dubya in Austin, Texas.
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Party hearty
Spanish 'Not Love Just Frenzy' opens.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

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Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender communities since 1971

Ready or not, here comes the march

by Katie Szymanski

In the midst of public controversy for three years now, the Millennium March on Washington—hosted and developed by the Human Rights Campaign—is fast approaching, and both march organizers and their opposition say they are interested to see how the event will go. Scheduled for Sunday, April 30, MMOW has been under scrutiny since 1997, and the criticism continued in 1998 when a group called the Ad Hoc Committee for an Open Process took out full-page ads in the

Washington Blade, demanding public input into the march's agenda. The march—also sponsored by the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches—first billed itself as an event with a "faith and families" focus, angering many in the LGBT communities who said they also deserved representation, even if they weren't religious and didn't have children. While an article **page 21** ▶



Gentrification and law enforcement contribute to increase in hate crimes LGBT violence report released

by Katie Szymanski

While violent crime rates plummet around the country and politicians take credit for their safer cities, the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender population continues to suffer in the shadows of misleading statistics.

Anti-LGBT violence was particularly brutal last year, according to a report released by the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, unveiled by Community United Against Violence last Thursday, April 6.

At a news conference at the Women's Building, CUAV staff members pointed out that while murder rates fell nationally, murder against LGBT people increased dramatically, with California seeing a 200 percent increase, second only to Houston's 500 percent increase.

Additionally, while anti-LGBT assaults were down, the violence occurring within these assaults was up, with more weapons, more surround tactics, and more targeting of people rather than property.

"The year 1999 was a year of tragic ironies," said Tina D'Elia, CUAV's hate violence survivor program director, who noted that based on the realities of the statistics, not enough was being done to train police officers on hate crimes and disqualify the homosexual panic defense in courts.

For the Bay Area, those realities look like this: 325 incidents were reported in San Francisco for 1999, down 18 percent from the 395 incidents reported in 1998. However, 60 percent of those assaulted last year were seriously injured, a 20 percent increase from 1998. Approximately



CUAV's Tina D'Elia

one in four assaults involved weapons such as baseball bats, bottles, and knives, a jump from one in every five attacks in 1998. Perpetrators went to great lengths not only to harm their victims, but to break their spirits, with verbal assaults accompanying most attacks, and 24 percent of the incidents involved multiple attackers and a lone victim. Seventeen percent of the attacks involved a perpetrator that had assaulted the same victim in the past, with 6 percent of the victims reporting 10 or more assaults by the same attacker.

Transgressors saw a 20 percent increase in assaults. Eighteen percent of all anti-LGBT crime in San Francisco involved transgressors, and perhaps most disturbing, 50 percent of the perpetrators were law enforcement officials.

"The harassment and assaults included police accusing and falsely arrest-

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A B.A.R. special report: Last of three parts

Dangerous decibels: Dancing till deaf

by Ed Walsh

If you raise the issue of hearing loss and music, experts quickly bring up the name of one organization and one woman: HEAR and its executive director, Kathy Peck.

Peck co-founded the San Francisco-based Hearing, Education, and Awareness for Rockers 11 years ago. HEAR's Web site gets 5,000 hits a day. The nonprofit organization fields calls and e-mails from every corner of the globe. Amazingly, its entire operation is run from an office in Peck's home and aside from Peck, there is only one paid staffer.

Peck found the Bay Area Reporter's survey of dangerous decibel levels in San Francisco dance clubs alarming but not surprising. "One scientist documented decibel levels from amplified music as high as 140 decibels," says Peck. Ironically, In Defense of Animals has staged a series of demonstrations against U.C. San Francisco for exposing monkeys to 140 dB. "I've got volunteers who subject themselves voluntarily to 140 dB for a two-hour period," says Peck.

Peck, 40, launched HEAR after suf-

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John Tramel, 30, gets fitted for musicians' earplugs by volunteer audiologist Teresa Konieczny




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Why eight colors now fly over Harvey Milk Plaza

by Terry Beswick

Once upon a time, in the far-away land of ancient Greece, in a mythical story queerly foreshadowing a true tale of late 1970s San Francisco, some Greek polytheistic pagans worshipped with innocent idolatry a very diverse group of deities, including one rather minor but very special goddess by the name of Iris.

Like her male god counterpart Hermes, Iris served as a simple messenger to the many whimsical gods and goddesses who out-ranked them on the lofty slopes of Mount Olympus.

Hermes of the Greeks was said to be a gamely god — called Mercury by the equally heathenish peoples of pre-mono-God Rome — and certain admiring more powerful gods favored him with a custom-made set of winged silvery sandals, designed of course to speed him on the many errands they would delegate to him.

Yet no simple air courier was the grandiose goddess Iris. Not to be outdone by some silver lamé sandals, this feisty grrl-god had the vision thing, and used it to plan her inaugural entrance for her first assigned posting to the people, thought by some historians to be a warning from the gods against the ignorance of homophobia and other fear-based prejudices against people who seemed a bit queer, or just plain different.

Iris, said to be pagan and egalitarian to the core, was a little miffed that she was "somehow overlooked" by the male-dominated higher-ups when they were handing out the wings. Naturally, the goddess Iris had potent powers over the forces of nature herself — especially when slighted by the new macho elite. Wasting no time, and borrowing her inspiration from the wonders of nature herself, in a flash of genius, Iris exposed a secret of the gods — the infinitely diverse spectrum of colors, secretly hidden in every beam of light cast to Earth by the sun.

She commandeered the light, refracting it as her palette against the canvass of the sky. It was the first rainbow, and quicker than a ray of light, she used it as a bridge to deliver herself to the mortals, and back to Olympus again.

Like all the other gods and goddesses of yore, Iris fell into obscurity for a long time, and their very existence came to be considered myths, their stories passed on by revisionist storytellers over the generations.

But according to some of the surviving evidence, the Greek and Roman gods and goddesses have merely toned down their image for awhile, and for them, the many glorious colors of the rainbow continue to symbolize the warning they sent to the earthly mortals on the goddess Iris's first rainbow, often summarized in the 1970s with the saying, "We're here, we're queer, get over it."

In 1978, Gilbert Baker, a long-time San Francisco activist, artist, and designer, created the rainbow flag which has since become increasingly renowned throughout the world as a universal symbol of the diversity of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning people, and also as a simple call for a recognition of their



The new rainbow flag at Market and Castro in its original eight colors.

equality with all people.

Unable to incorporate the infinite colors of the rainbow in his design for a flag for the burgeoning gay rights movement, Baker's original design included eight colors, in eight simple horizontal stripes.

Later, chiefly due to the fact that printing technology in the late 1970s only permitted up to six colors on a flag that was to be mass-produced, two of the original eight colors — fuchsia and turquoise — were reluctantly dropped.

But this is the year 2000, and thanks in great measure to \$3,000 from the Castro Street Fair, Baker has gradually begun restoring the rainbow flag; today eight colors gloriously fly over Harvey Milk Plaza at Castro and Market streets in San Francisco.

"The flag is a monument to Harvey. It's of Harvey's time. He would remember that there were eight colors originally," Baker said.

"I was really grateful to the Castro Street Fair, especially Steven Gaynes, the president, and particularly to Leigh Christopher," Baker said.

These days, in addition to other skills and talents, Baker identifies as a "vexillographer," or flag scholar. Unquestionably an expert on the rainbow flag, he explained to the *Bay Area Reporter* that his original eight-color design for his rainbow, as with Iris's, was based on scientifically measurable forces of nature.

Specifically, Baker noted, the number eight carries weight not only in the field of genetic science, but also in the increasingly visible world of gender politics.

"There are eight possible genetic pairings [chromosomes] between men and women. Or, in other words, there are eight possible sexes," the flag creator said, quickly adding that, "I would recommend that everyone should try sex in eight different ways."

Baker is opening an exhibit about the rainbow flag in Rome, Italy on July 1. He said the message of the flag has universal appeal.

"I love that straight people as well as gay people find the flag inspirational," the artist noted with pride. "It is a symbol of liberation and hope. And it feels good to look at — it's a spiritual symbol." ▼

Transgender history focus of Stanford panel tonight

by Katie Szymanski

The notion of transsexualism has an intricate history, and the advent of sexual reassignment surgery has played a crucial role in the development of gender variation acceptance.

Addressing this history as it relates to the formation of transgender identity, community, politics, and academics is a panel of distinguished guests at a unique forum that takes place at Stanford University tonight (Thursday, April 13).

Stanford, the site of the second-ever American clinic for sexual reassignment surgery (the first was Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore), will examine transgender evolution both locally and nationally, beginning at 7 p.m. in building 320, room 105 on campus.

Joanne Meyerowitz, a professor at Indian University, will pre-

sent "An Overview of Transsexual History in the United States," and researcher Dr. Susan Stryker will handle "The Bay Area's Transsexual History."

Because transsexuals must go through a process whereby they are diagnosed with "gender dysphoria" in order to receive surgery, Allucquere "Sandy" Stone, a professor at the University of Texas, will present "The Stanford Gender Dysphoria Program — An MTF View," and activist Jamison Green will address "The Stanford Gender Dysphoria Program — An FTM View."

Before the panel, Stryker will host a forum about the research behind the Bay Area transgender presentation, at 4:15 p.m. at the Humanities Center Annex. ▼

Both events are free and open to the public. Call (650) 725-1945 for more information.

Pride vendor fees soar

by Katie Szymanski

As a community, lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders tend to make their own rules and ethics, but here in San Francisco, some say that it's beginning to look like Pride may be one of the seven deadly sins after all.

When repeat vendors received their applications for booths at this year's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Celebration, some were shocked to find that their fees had soared from what they paid in 1999.

"We didn't realize it until we started filling out the paperwork," a longtime vendor told the *Bay Area Reporter*. The vendor opted to decrease his company's participation so that his fees would not double.

A look at the vendor application shows that vendors and exhibitors pay a minimum of \$800 for space at both days at "It's About Free-



Teddy Witherington

\$200, according to Teddy Witherington, Pride's executive director. That means this year's increase is anywhere from \$300 to \$1,300 for those locations.

"We're charging a lot more for corner and prime spaces this year because last year we had far more

selling your own stuff, fees are \$400 for both days or \$295 for Sunday. But corporations are charged a flat rate of \$5,000 and tend to get better locations because they can afford it.

"The whole gay pride business is going corporate. It favors upscale businesses, so small vendors — especially women and minority-owned businesses — get left out," said the disgruntled vendor, who refused to give his name. "The parade here has become about money, and it's an anathema to the spirit upon which pride was founded."

In smaller celebrations around the country, the fees aren't nearly as steep. A Fort Wayne, Indiana, pride vendor pays \$50, for instance, although there aren't almost 1 million potential shoppers there. But even in Atlanta — the fourth largest pride celebration in the country — vendor fees are \$500 for three full days, a substantial difference considering three days at San Francisco's cheapest rates would run at least \$1,200.

Witherington, however, maintains that businesses should pay more in order to finance the parade and lower the cost for nonprofits and community groups.

"Overall we're looking at under a 20 percent increase across the board on vendor fees," said Witherington. "This is the largest event in the state and the rewards for exhibitors are larger than any other event."

And, he added, "We're always open to discussing with individual vendors their concerns." ▼

"It favors upscale businesses, so small vendors get left out."

dom," the Pride Parade and festival that runs in the city on Saturday, June 24 and Sunday, June 25. A space for just Sunday, the day of the parade, runs \$650. And these are just for random locations.

To choose an exact space in the less populated areas, a vendor adds a \$100 plotting fee to the above price. For a prime space, a vendor adds \$500 to the overall fee. For a prime space that is also on the corner, a vendor adds \$1,500 to the fee.

Last year, corner spaces and prime spaces ran only an extra

vendors wanting those spaces than we could accommodate," Witherington told the *B.A.R.*

But rather than give those spaces on a first-come first-served basis, Witherington said, "Being our 30th anniversary, it's our biggest year ever. Our budget is bigger, and every part of our income has to pay its rightful part in financing the parade. Exhibitors and sponsors all have to pay their part."

Things look a little better if you're a nonprofit, as those organizations receive discounts and/or free space. Or if you're an artist

Want a treatment holiday?

by Terry Beswick

As is typically the case in the absence of hard data, there's been a lot of hype about the concept of STI, or structured treatment interruption, in the context of HAART, or highly active anti-retroviral therapy.

"Hear the latest research about the goals, strategies, and results of interrupting HIV treatment," promise organizers of a forum on STI this Monday, April 17, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the San Francisco Baha'i Center at 170 Valencia Street.

Co-sponsored by Project Inform

and Survive AIDS (formerly ACT UP/Golden Gate), the presentation and discussion will feature Dr. Steven Deeks of the University of California San Francisco AIDS Program, and Martin Delaney, founding director of Project Inform.

The event is free of charge, though donations are encouraged. Light refreshments will be provided, and free child care is available on request. ▼

For more information, call (415) 558-8669, ext. 212, or go to www.projectinform.org.



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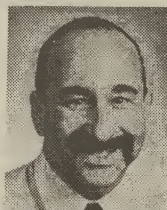
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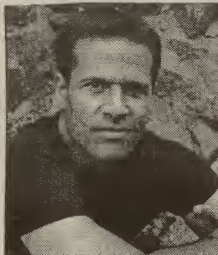
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Still smokin'



Medical marijuana crusader Dennis Peron, center, gets a big, wet kiss from David Nash, and a cake to celebrate his 53rd birthday last Saturday, April 8. San Francisco attorney Tony Serra's office was the scene for the Peron appreciation party. He talked about making medical marijuana more available, and building a marijuana-based culture rather than one that is alcohol-based.

M.E. says man likely died of heart attack

by Ed Walsh

Jeff Goring, the 35-year-old San Jose man who collapsed and died at Club Universe February 13, likely died of a heart attack, according to San Francisco Medical Examiner Dr. Boyd Stephens.

"It's almost like Sherlock Holmes," Stephens told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We had to eliminate everything else." Stephens said Goring had an enlarged heart and evidence of long-standing damage to some of the muscle fibers that make up the heart. Stephens said there was also evidence that hypertension may have been a contributor to Goring's death. Stephens said Goring had told his mother he had been diagnosed with high blood pressure.

There is no evidence drugs played any role in Goring's death. No drugs or alcohol were found in his system and Goring's friends say he didn't use drugs. Goring suffered a history of asthma but Stephens said he could find no evidence asthma contributed to his death.

Questions were first raised just after Goring's death over whether the club employees waited too long to call an ambulance. Stephens said it may be impossible to know whether any delay would have made a difference. "I don't know if he was dead when he hit the floor," said Stephens.

Club Universe's events manager, Audrey Joseph, said a club security guard first came in contact with Goring on the club's stage dance floor at 2:40 a.m. The guard began CPR on Goring before he was carried to the side hallway. Three doctors who were in the club also assisted in CPR. A 911 call was made by the club at 2:48 a.m.

Joseph said some delay is understandable considering the confusion of events and because the nearest phone is at the front of the club. Goring was being attended to in the hallway in the back of the club. Goring's friend, Marco Ninjares, was with him when he collapsed and believes club employees, doctors, and paramedics did everything they could to save Goring's life.

Stephens told the *B.A.R.* some delays are understandable. "Peo-

ple are people," he said. But Stephens added that emergency help should be called immediately if someone is in need of CPR. "If someone needs CPR, they need paramedics," said Stephens. "It's like someone with a fire in their house who tries to put out the fire on their own. You call the fire department first."

Goring's close friend, Steve Cohen, has been sharply critical of Club Universe. "By waiting they didn't give him his second chance," said Cohen. "Everyone has the right to that chance."

"Was the delay out of ignorance or out of neglect? That's the question," Cohen believes if the club acted out of ignorance, club management should educate workers of the importance of calling 911 immediately when someone is unconscious and not breathing. If they believe the club acted under neglect, Cohen said Goring's family should take the matter up with an attorney. ▼

'Prowl' Oakland's Alley bar on Sundays

by Terry Beswick

Beginning this weekend, an already gay-friendly bar in Oakland "goes gay" altogether on Sunday nights. The Alley bar has designated Sunday nights for "Prowl," featuring weekly beer busts to raise money for community organizations.

This Sunday, April 16, the first official beer bust for East Bay prowlers, from 5-8 p.m., will raise funds for East Bay Pride Inc., the organization that produces the annual Oakland Gay Mardi Gras, and other East Bay events.

Prowling at the Alley, located at 3325 Grand Avenue, across the street from the Grand Lake Theatre, continues until 2 a.m.

Charitable organizations interested in signing up for one of the weekly fundraisers can call "Prowl" at (510) 869-3951. ▼

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The firing of a salesman

by Terry Beswick

Those arcane little amendments adding "sexual orientation" to the list of folks protected by anti-discrimination laws may not seem as sexy or exciting to some people as it was about 20 years ago, when gay and lesbian activists first began working to amend California's Fair Employment and Housing Act.

But at ground zero, in certain corporate hallways and board rooms, when a gay man is casually called "a queer," or simply fired in

apparent retaliation for being a gay man, those amendments matter.

On Monday, April 10, attorneys for William Fike, a top salesman for the world's largest manufacturer of wire and cable products filed suit in San Francisco Superior Court accusing his employer of discrimination based on sexual orientation and age.

Fike's lead attorney on the case, Geoffrey Kors, of the Law Offices of Wotman, Kors, & Cloutier, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that while the California Labor Code had previously included some protections

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Plaintiff William Fike

Bill Hirsh takes over at ALRP

by Jose Antonio Vargas

Longtime disability rights attorney Bill Hirsh has been named executive director of the AIDS Legal Referral Panel, the agency's board of directors announced this month. Hirsh takes over from Irwin Keller, who left the agency earlier this year to pursue an off-Broadway career with the Kinsey Sicks, a dragapella beautyshop quartet.

A 1986 graduate of Golden Gate University Law School, Hirsh most recently served as executive director of the Mental Health Association of San Francisco. He also had served as directing attorney for the Mental Health Advocacy Project of the Santa Clara County Bar Association Law Foundation. He has over 10 years of experience in community-based nonprofit organizations.

"All my work has been with nonprofits. For me, it's an effective way of promoting social change," Hirsh said. "What we do here in the ALRP is help get people with AIDS appropriate legal representation. We provide the highest quality we can with the limited resources that we have available."

As the leading provider of legal



New ALRP head Bill Hirsh

services to people with HIV in the San Francisco Bay Area, ALRP was one of the nation's first organized responses to the AIDS epidemic. The agency was formed by a committee of Bay Area attorneys who met in the early 1980s to help fill the needs of people hospitalized with varying AIDS-related illnesses. Formed in 1983, ALRP has handled over 35,000 legal matters. Today, it employs a staff of 11, including five in-house attorneys and coordinates a network of 600 volunteer attorneys.

According to Hirsh, the legal needs of people with HIV/AIDS has dramatically changed. In the

past, lawyers were needed only to draft wills and provide durable power of attorneys. Nowadays, as people living with HIV live longer and continue to be part of the work force, Hirsh pointed out that there are other issues that need legal attention.

"The epidemic is not over and the need to protect the legal rights of people affected by HIV and AIDS has not ended," Hirsh explained. "Housing, healthcare, employment, and family law matters have moved to the forefront of the legal arena for ALRP clients, and ALRP's legal services have expanded to meet the needs of our clients." ▼

For more information on ALRP, call (415) 291-5454.

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OPEN FORUM

Marching to nowhere

In just over two weeks, thousands of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people will converge on Washington, D.C. for the corporate-sponsored Millennium March on Washington. Many who are going probably will enjoy the multitude of events that are planned for the days leading up to the April 30 march, but many more in the LGBT community have stated that they will not attend, and we support their decision.

MMOW has been fraught with controversy since it was unilaterally called by the Human Rights Campaign and the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches in 1997. There has been virtually no community input in planning the march; few community meetings and almost no publicity about them meant that few people showed up. Organizers then said people could use the Internet to cast ballots for issues the march should take up. Not surprisingly, MMOW organizers have disregarded these votes from the community — and this process didn't even take into account input from people not wired to the Web: their views haven't been heard by anyone.

People of color within the LGBT community have been given the short end of the stick in planning for MMOW, which by its very nature has been controlled primarily by wealthy white gays and lesbians.

More troubling is that MMOW lacks any cognizant reason for people to march. All the previous marches on Washington — in 1979, 1987, and 1993 — had a purpose. And they all operated under the process of representative democracy. People across the country felt involved. They were motivated to make the marches successful. This time the process has been elitist and disempowering. There has been no opportunity for meaningful input from local groups or activists.

There seems to be no purpose for this year's event, and if there is, organizers haven't articulated it well because few in the community, aside from ardent supporters of the event, can name a single unifying reason to pay \$1,000 to fly across the country to send some sort of symbolic message to political leaders. In fact, few politicians will even be in Washington, D.C. on a Sunday since most leave the capital on weekends. Not only that, but the politicians who need educating about our issues — namely Republicans — almost certainly won't be attending.

Most of all, however, we can't support the march because organizers have steadfastly refused to open their financial records. Activists and others have repeatedly called for financial accountability and that has not been forthcoming. We won't know until long after the march is over how much was spent and for what. We agree with many activists who harbor suspicions that some people will inappropriately profit from the march, or perhaps already have. We don't know because no one can get access to the records.

That there have been countless resignations from the MMOW executive board speaks volumes about the lack of a common vision for the upcoming event. Representatives from the progressive National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the National Youth Advocacy Coalition resigned. Additionally, the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, Pride at Work, BiNet USA, It's Time America, the National Stonewall Democratic Federation, and the National Association of Black and White Men Together all

have refused to support the march.

Naturally, one group who doesn't support us is expected to show up in full anti-gay regalia. Fred Phelps and his entourage of gay bashers likely will be out in force, carrying their "God Hates Fags" placards in front of the TV cameras, which will be only too happy to oblige in spreading Phelps's message of hate and intolerance to millions of homes on the evening news, giving that message a sense of legitimacy that it doesn't deserve and merely feeding into Phelps's overblown ego.

Instead of participating in MMOW, we urge readers to spend the time and money doing something productive for the LGBT community. Donate to nonprofits that work to end gay violence,

or those that provide programs for LGBT youth or programs for people living with HIV/AIDS. Volunteer at one of the many community organizations that work tirelessly — and often on shoestring budgets — to combat the homophobia that is still present in our society, even right here in the Bay Area. Save your money. Don't go to the march. ▼



Editorial

George W. finally agrees to a Taste Test...

TELL YA' WHAT, THIS STUFF WAS CHEWY AND HAD A BITTER AFTER-TASTE!

BUT THIS OTHER WAS SWEET AND SOFT... IT WAS M-M-M GOOD!! (WELL, FOR FRUIT, THAT IS!)



Greed kills gays in El Salvador

by Richard Stern

In El Salvador, Raymundo, a 27-year-old gay man, lies in a bed in the ward in one of the country's public hospitals. Raymundo had a North American boyfriend, Frank, who spent a year in the capital city of San Salvador working in the travel industry in 1993. Frank, who lives in Los Angeles, also has AIDS and takes an expensive combination of anti-retroviral medications which keeps him in good health. But Raymundo, who now weighs 90 pounds and suffers from a variety of opportunistic infections, is just waiting to die. "I can't swallow, I can't eat, my mouth is full of fungus," he says. His country does not provide him with any anti-retroviral medications, citing the cost of over \$700 per month.

Raymundo earned \$280 a month as a factory worker sewing together brand name shirts for a U.S. company that will sell the shirts for \$65 each in New York. In any case, Raymundo hasn't worked in two years since he began to get sick. When not in the hospital, he lives with his mother and three younger sisters in a one bedroom apartment near San Salvador's downtown section.

Raymundo does not blame Frank for his situation. "I just didn't know that much about AIDS. We fell in love and I didn't even think about using a condom. But I wish that my country would treat me better. I would have liked to have had a life." Raymundo has photos of himself with Frank from seven years ago. Both are mustached and muscular, wearing sleeveless T-shirts and jeans. There is no resemblance to the

skeletal figure that lies in the bed in front of me. Raymundo was 19 at the time, Frank 26.

Raymundo and Frank continue to write, and Frank was to have come for a visit last Christmas. "I told him, please no," said Raymundo. "I couldn't stand for him to see me the way I look now."

Only a few kilometers away from Raymundo's hospital bed are all the medications that could help him recover from his infections. But they are locked in the closets of the international pharmaceutical companies who produce them. Most of the companies are based in the United States. Because of international trade agreements and lobbying efforts by the U.S. government, prices for medications to treat AIDS have not dropped significantly and remain out of reach for 95 percent of the region's populations.

In neighboring Guatemala, gay men are afraid of revealing their HIV status to health workers. "I must hide the fact that I have AIDS from my family," says Mario, who comes from a traditional Roman Catholic family. "But if they knew I was gay, they would throw me into the street." But Mario knows that as he gets sicker and sicker, it will be harder and harder for him to hide his condition from his family. In Guatemala, it is very common for people with AIDS to be thrown out by their families. If they are gay, the situation is likely to be even worse.

Douglas Lara, a young Guatemalan who works as an AIDS educator, was my host dur-

ing a recent visit to that country. "It is a shame," he says, "in the U.S. these medications are readily available, but who in Guatemala can afford to pay \$700 per month? Corporate greed and international indifference are killing the gay men of my country."

The stories of Raymundo and Mario are not exceptions. Every year about 1,500 gay men die of AIDS in Central America. Most of them are under 35, and most of them die horrible deaths from untreated opportunistic infections that wreak havoc on their bodies.

Only in Costa Rica does the health care system provide anti-retroviral medications to all those who need it.

In Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua, only about 5 percent of people living with AIDS have access to anti-retroviral medication.

The AIDS revolution and the availability of medications has dramatically changed the lives of gay men with HIV in the United States and Europe, but there has been little or no change south of the border. ▼

Richard Stern is director of the Agua Buena Human Rights Association based in San José, Costa Rica, which works for access to treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS in Central America. To find out how you can help, write Association Agua Buena, Apartado 366-2200, Coronado, Costa Rica, phone (506) 234-2411, or e-mail: rastersol@sol.racsa.co.cr.

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Still shouting

I would like to add my contribution to Ed Walsh's series ["Dangerous decibels: Dancing till deaf," March 30, April 6].

In the 1980s I was a weekend deejay for four years at a gay bar. Needless to say, I loved the job which began as a transition from having been a patron and dancer for several years.

I made the transition to the booth from the dance floor where I and friends would dance the night away in front of the speakers, or on them, before I noticed any symptoms of daily hearing loss. There were nights I left with "ringing" in my ears and thought nothing of it. Mostly it was gone the next morning.

During the four years that I spun behind Plexiglas, I wore one headphone ear cup over my left ear and the other behind the right. Like anyone in the club scene I liked the music "throbbing." Anytime a club wants "throb" from a poor sound system, the volume goes up. Afterwards, I was often asking friends in conversation to repeat themselves. I left clubbing and spinning behind at the beginning of the 1990s. I often said I was bored with the music. In my best interest, I went less and less. I continued to go to concerts, scoring floor tickets and good seats but often right in the path of the "sonic boom" performed by some of those bands. Many concerts left me with ringing in the ear, and it would take longer to go away.

My attention on my lost hearing began when a friend noticed my first response to anything not said directly to me became, "What?"

I now have persistent tinnitus, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. I had a test recently proving a 40 percent loss of hearing in my left ear.

More and more retail shops and restaurants have forgotten music as background. I have left jobs and a field of work I enjoyed because the music blended with everything else and created too many conflicts of concentration as my hearing deteriorated.

I can attest to social isolation because of my hearing loss. An annual Christmas party with co-workers at a high-profile Market/Castro restaurant a few years ago where the volume of conversation and music excelled, left me speechless. I am not a lip-reader, and have not acquired a hearing aid yet. That evening, among people I knew for several years, I could not hear the words from across the table, or the people right in front of me. Nothing was decipherable to my left. The conversation coming from the right was the only one I could participate in and not misidentify words or context. I stayed quiet not wanting to compete and shout and initiate any conversation that I could not maintain.

The result is I still like music and it's fun to share musical interests. When I was younger, public space that included my friends, myself, good laughs and conversation while playing the music we liked was the norm. Now, I have no choice but to separate these likes; listening to my music working alone or uninterrupted, while talking with friends at full attention requires a "library" setting.

In a loud environment I do not want to be among those people shouting to be heard. Yet even when the background is quiet, because of tinnitus (ringing in the ear) my voice compensates and projects louder believing something is raising the volume. I sometimes am still the one shouting.

Wes Miller
San Francisco

Why 'The Body'?

I can't believe Jesse Ventura was nominated for parade grand marshal ["Parade grand marshals nominated," March 30]. Who nominates these people anyway? If his only qualification is that he has a pro-gay platform, that is pretty pathetic; otherwise, he is an obnoxious individual who got elected because he was the lesser of two evils, and who has made no other contributions to our community.

When we vote for parade grand marshal, we should consider the following: is this person a good role model, and has this person made a positive and tangible contribution to the LGBT community at large and more specifically, to San Francisco's LGBT community (this is, after all, San Francisco's Pride celebration). With those criteria in mind, I am voting for Pat Norman, Phyllis Lyon-Del Martin, Reverend Cecil Williams-Janice Mirikitani, and Project Open Hand.

Regardless of who you vote for, don't waste it on someone who has no loyalty to our community.

Rebecca Woo
San Francisco

Bathhouses: Golden prevention opportunity

It is certainly essential that the city take all necessary steps to ensure that its Department of Public Health respects the special needs of lesbian, bisexual and transgendered women ["LBT health forum," Mailstrom, April 6.] But one is left only to wince when

Mayor Brown, Public Health Director Dr. Mitch Katz and Supervisor Leslie Katz are hosting the gig in light of how they've addressed gay men's health.

Instead of relying on the science, Brown, Katz, and Katz made San Francisco the largest city in the Bay Area to ban gay bathhouses based on top-down hysteria tinged with homophobia. There are no studies that show either way whether the presence or absence of gay bathhouses has any effect, positive or negative on HIV seroconversion rates.

It is said that one half of phenomenon are intuitive and the other half counterintuitive. As the Department of Political Health bureaucrats danced to Brown's rightward re-election tune and nixed revisiting the baths (unlike some decision-makers who travel to San Jose and Berkeley for their pleasures), they just might have passed up a golden prevention opportunity to intervene in the optimal place. By doing nothing, they possibly put more lives in danger.

Public health was intended to extinguish rotten political control over health issues with the oxygen of objective science - but not in a San Francisco under Brown's control. Let's hope that our lesbian, trans, and bi sisters resist manipulation of their crucial health issues by opportunist politicians like these.

Marc Salomon
San Francisco

Hold the plastic in pizza

Although I was severely warned and threatened, I insisted that no plastic divider be placed in my pizza order. The same for containers of cheese and chili pepper flakes. A warning and a threat! Is this possible? Yes.

When I asked the woman on the other end of the telephone not to put the ubiquitous plastic divider in my pizza, she angrily informed me she could not abide by my instructions. She had to put the divider in. I wondered that maybe this was due to a health department order. No, she feared that the cheese would stick to the top of the lid. I said I could deal with it. She still insisted she could not follow my request. Thank you I said, I will just order from another pizza establishment. That did it, she offered to abide by my instructions but not before warning me that my pizza would arrive crushed.

When the pizza was delivered, I opened the box with great trepidation. Not only was the pizza in perfect condition, but there was so little cheese that the box would have had to be delivered upside down to have anything stick to the lid. I informed the delivery person that plastic, in and of itself, is a dangerous product because its manufacture is one cause for the most carcinogenic chemical known to science, dioxin. He just shrugged.

Denise D'Anne
San Francisco

The ugly side of American politics

The tragic case of Elián González continues to spotlight the ugliest side of American politics. How appalling it is to see Vice President Al Gore pandering to a group of right-wing thugs who seek to separate a loving parent from his child in order to advance their political agenda. Even more despicable are the inflammatory statements of Miami-Dade County Mayor Alex Penelas, who incidentally happens to be a major Gore fund-raiser.

Although they cloak their position by claiming to act in the best interests of the child, they are clearly only interested in the best interests of the anti-Castro cause. They have failed to produce even a shred of evidence that the father is in any way unfit to raise Elián. Indeed he appears to be far more fit than Elián's mother, whose reckless behavior resulted in her death and nearly cost Elián his life.

These fanatics will yield only if Elián's father abandons and renounces his current life, his community and country and openly embraces their agenda. If this were to happen, it would be a major propaganda victory for them, and Gore would no doubt love to take some of the credit for it. Gore's staff have frankly admitted that his statements have been tailored to enhance his chance of winning Florida's 25 electoral votes in November.

We in the queer community have seen similar agendas play out all too many times, as extremist groups have sought, often successfully, to deny loving lesbian and gay parents the right to raise their own children, demanding that the parents abandon their "sinful" ways before being allowed to exercise rights that everyone else takes for granted.

In the current political climate Gore would not dare to embrace the cause of these anti-gay groups, for it would not be politically expedient to do so. However, if the climate were to change, where do you think Al would be?

Roger Ritland
San Francisco

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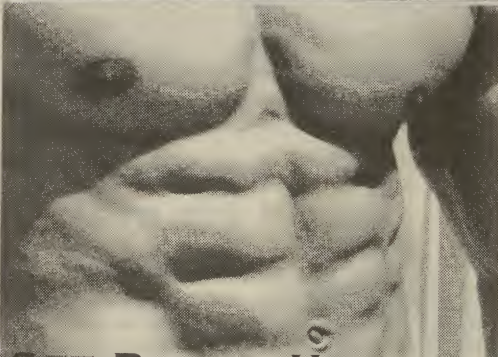
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Wake up folks!

During a recent visit to England, an article appeared in London's *Pink Paper* which I believe holds relevance for queers in this country as well, entitled "Festival scrapped by fascist threats." A gay Mardi Gras planned for the city of Leicester (with a population 25 percent Asian) was canceled due to threats from local fascists and evangelical Christians. The issue disturbs me deeply, but the response of the organizers disturbs me also, that the affair was not intended to be a "political event" and that the "extra cost of security" would defeat the "fundraising purpose" of the day.

I am so sick of this response I could scream. Like it or not, being queer is political, by its very nature. Changing sodomy laws is a political process. Walking down the street holding hands with a same-sex lover can be life-threatening. Getting the right to marry, or at least share the economic benefits of marriage, is political, as shown by the recent vote on Proposition 22. The only reason gay people can still pretend not to "be political" is because of all the political struggle that has gone before to achieve the relative measure of civil rights we currently enjoy; rights taken for granted by far too many.

Sadly, the once militantly political gay movement has disintegrated into an orgy of consumerism and "non-political" money-making extravaganzas. If not in Leicester, where will the non-political Mardi Gras revelers of the world be willing to make a stand? When will defending our right to be take precedence over the economic cost of extra security? Wake up folks! Fascists are quite serious about their politics. How far will we let them go before we decide to "be political" in our response?

Charlie Hinton
San Francisco

ACT UP, Survive AIDS shenanigans

The recent articles about cybersquatters [March 30] and the recent ACT UP/Golden Gate's name change [March 23] purport to represent both sides in the ongoing turf wars between ACT UP/SF and the newly-named Survive AIDS groups. Of course I haven't had the chance to interview all the involved parties as you obviously have, but I wonder if you've heard what I've heard?

My sources say that ACT UP/SF aren't the only ones involved in pranks and shenanigans. I hear that it was the professional victims at Survive AIDS who actually created and posted those false "apology" posters using ACT UP/SF's logo, to try to smear their message and confuse the public. That ACT UP/SF responded by trying to blunt the posters' impact by pretending they themselves had done them as a satire and April Fools' Day prank was quick-thinking, but also too easily let the Survive AIDS crew continue to play innocent victim while slyly sharpening their knives.

Now, when will we be able to move beyond all this bickering and coverage of pranks and return to the real issues involved here? When will the well-paid AIDS authorities agree to discuss the issues of AIDS causes and treatments publicly, instead of continuing to duck and run? And when will the gay press and the gay community rise up in anger and insist on accountability from the pharmaceuticals and from gay/AIDS leaders? How about now?

Rex Poindexter, ACT UP/Hollywood
West Hollywood, California

AIDS peer review needed

In the article "South Africa officials question cause of AIDS" [March 23], AIDS establishment employees and supporters put on a great yelling and whining act, all over the fact that the president didn't like the AIDS establishment's idea of giving a highly toxic drug (AZT) to pregnant mothers. The argument quickly spread into a basic challenge of the idea that HIV actually causes AIDS. Now, President Mbeki is planning to host an AIDS conference, in which all views, including dissident views on AIDS, will be heard and the AIDS establishment will not be able to control the outcome.

Could it be that the AIDS establishment is deathly afraid, now that a national leader has joined the AIDS dissident movement, that the dissident viewpoint could spread rapidly and end up forcing the AIDS establishment to submit to a high level, impartial, scientific, peer review. The AIDS establishment has never submitted its views to an impartial peer review. Such scientific peer reviews are a standard step in proving any scientific ideal. Since no such peer review has taken place, all the research that the AIDS establishment has done must be considered suspect.

In fact, such a peer review sounds like a great idea. Finally, after over 18 years, the AIDS establishment will not be able to just make public announcements and expect everyone to just believe what they are saying. In a peer review, they will have to prove their case. Such a peer review could provide some startling revelations and possibly change the way the war on AIDS is conducted. It's about time the general public found what is true in the war on AIDS, and what is not. So let's hire the hall, line up the talent, and send

out the invites. Let's get this show on the road.

Richard McCain
Richmond, California

Thanks voters

I'm writing to thank the 10,944 voters who just elected me to the Democratic County Central Committee. In a city driven by money, greed, and political club and newspaper endorsements, you, the voter, elected me without a single endorsement and without spending a single dime. Could democracy actually work?

I applaud the other 65 candidates who had the leadership and courage of their convictions to put their ideas for a better Democratic Party and a better San Francisco on the line, especially the other gay, lesbian, and transgender candidates.

Since I got nearly 18,000 votes in my citywide race for supervisor in 1998 and only spent \$1,000, I'm obviously very excited about the November district elections. Anyone interested in my political platform can check out my Web site: ohearn4supervisor.com, which will be up in two weeks or call me at (415) 252-7624 and leave an address and I'll mail you the information. Thanks again for supporting me and I'll see you on the campaign trail.

Shawn O'Hearn
San Francisco

Supé candidate on transit

On March 2, the Committee to Elect Davy Jones Supervisor from the 6th District published in the *B.A.R.* several proposals for community input. One proposal was for the immediate implementation of Muni's plan to reroute the 19, 12, 27, and 30 bus lines to the South of Market area to reduce traffic gridlock.

Well, it seems that Muni general manager Michael Burns and company read the *B.A.R.* because the bus expansion plan to SOMA that was ignored for almost a year was finally presented at a public hearing with a vote set for May 2.

I urge our supporters and residents of the SOMA area to call Muni at (415) 554-4129 and request the SOMA expansion bus service plan be expedited (instead of waiting until next year) and to support our campaign proposal to extend the Muni transfer to 4 1/2 hours, allowing passengers more time for shopping in the downtown area.

My campaign is about improving the quality of life.

Davy Jones
San Francisco

Tobacco = asbestos

This is in response to Reid Condit's March 23 letter, "About Prop. 28." I wholeheartedly agree with your dismay and disappointment at the failure of gay voters to support Cigarettes Cheaper's initiative to vanquish the draconian 50-cent per package surcharge on cigarettes. Proposition 28 would rip the lungs from the vicious "special punishment" that exists only to deny every human their mellow, flavorful satisfaction available only in tobacco.

Mr. Condit, you are right on the money of this issue. This corrupt surcharge heartlessly targets the rights of lower-income people who have just as much right to cancer, emphysema, or halitosis as the rich do. The failure and ultimate hypocrisy of the gay establishment to see that the right to recognition and equal legal acceptance of their loving unions is synonymous with the basic human right to have equal access to highly addictive, toxic substances. That indiscriminate human rights violations against a minority, outrageous surcharges and the banning of smokers from bars and restaurants are not only tolerated, but supported by a minority is akin to gypsies helping Nazis kill Jews.

Worst of all this hurts the tobacco giant profiteers. Billions of dollars are made everyday, worldwide as more people discover the powerful attraction of pure smoking satisfaction. America and gay-marriage advocates should be proud that the influence of companies like Philip Morris continue the patriotic capitalist tradition of economic colonialism, anti-environmentalism, and genocide-profitreering.

Access to tobacco's rich, mellow flavor, numerous toxins, poisons, carcinogens, addictive substances, and pure satisfaction has to remain alongside same-sex union recognition at the forefront of the GLBT rights campaign.

A minority who is as un-American as the queer anti-smokers are cannot look to heterosexual America for recognition and acceptance until they recognize and accept that tobacco is as American as asbestos and DDT-laced apple pie.

James Danforth
San Francisco

Send short, signed letters to the *Bay Area Reporter*, 395 9th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Please include a daytime phone number for verification purposes.

POLITICS

Gore and Bush camps look to veep candidates

by Wayne Friday

Though both presumptive presidential nominees continue to play down the idea that they are already looking at potential vice presidential candidates as they continue their respective campaigns for the White House, both Vice President **Al Gore** and Texas Governor **George W. Bush** reportedly have already put together a short list of possible running mates and both will likely have decided well before the GOP meets in July in Philadelphia to officially make Bush their nominee and the Democrats meet in Los Angeles in August to ratify Gore as their presidential standard-bearer.

Gore has quietly put together a handful of advisors, headed by former Secretary of State **Warren Christopher**, to help narrow down the veep list to no more than three finalists. Currently,

there are as many as six "real possibilities," according to Gore strategists. They include Energy Secretary **Bill Richardson**, a Latino; Florida U.S. Senator **Bob Graham**; Indiana U.S. Senator **Evan Bayh**; Connecticut U.S. Senator **Joseph Lieberman**; California U.S. Senator **Dianne Feinstein**; and California Governor **Gray Davis**. In addition, there are reportedly at least half a dozen long shot possibilities for Gore to choose from.

Some political prognosticators say that Richardson is almost surely at the top of the Gore short list, because he would draw well among Latino voters that could be crucial to winning tossup states like Illinois, Florida, New York, and California. A Richardson candidacy, however, also carries some possible liabilities since his home state of New Mexico has only five electoral votes, and as energy secretary, Richardson would probably be held responsible if the volatile gasoline price situation does not calm down soon. If gasoline prices are high or higher going into the August convention, Richardson could be out of the veep running, leaving Graham and Bayh as the favorites. Graham, in particular, would help Gore carry Florida even though Bush is thought to now be slightly ahead there, due in part to the fact his brother **Jeb Bush**, is governor and presides over a strong GOP state organization.

As for California, Gore knows he must carry the state if he is to win the White House and Davis—enormously popular here—on the ticket would all but ensure California's 54 electoral votes. However, some claim that Gore could win California without Davis and would be better advised to look elsewhere for a running mate where another person could be of help to the Democratic ticket.

Feinstein comes into play as a veep choice only if the Republicans put a woman, possibly **Elizabeth Dole**, on the ticket when they choose a vice presidential nominee a month before the Democratic convention.

As for the Republican Party, most think that Bush is now looking very long and hard at Pennsylvania Governor **Tom Ridge**,

particularly if retired General **Colin Powell** continues to say he would turn down an offer as the GOP running mate. Powell has repeatedly said he isn't interested in the veep slot but would like to serve as secretary of state in a Republican administration. Governor Ridge, who would be instrumental in helping win Pennsylvania's 23 electoral votes, also has some liabilities. Namely, he is pro-choice on the abortion issue, favors some gun control, and is thought to be a "moderate" on issues like gay rights. Ridge, however, is a Catholic and could be helpful in strengthening Bush's appeal to voters of that faith and help

undo any lingering damage from Bush's infamous visit earlier this year to Bob Jones University, a South Carolina school with a long history of anti-Catholic bias.

Some of Bush's far right, Christian Coalition backers are reportedly warning him that any pro-choice candidate is totally "unacceptable," and he may eventually turn to Elizabeth Dole, former Defense Secretary **Richard Cheney**, Oklahoma Governor **Frank Keating**, or Florida Senator **Connie Mack**.

Still, there are many who feel that when all is said and done Bush might be forced to offer Arizona Senator **John McCain** the vice presidential slot. Although McCain told CNN as recently as this past Sunday that "under no circumstances" would he seek or accept the vice presidential nomination, many feel he would be obligated to accept if the spot were offered. If a Bush-McCain slate were to lose to Gore in November, McCain would immediately become the Republican to head the GOP ticket in 2004, and not a candidate (Bush) who had the chance but lost. As unlikely as a Bush-McCain ticket may sound since the two reportedly detest each other (so did **John Kennedy** and **Lyndon Johnson**), I am among those who think that the Republicans will eventually leave their July convention with a Bush-McCain ticket.

It's only a guess, but I'm predicting that it will be Bush-McCain versus Gore-Graham in November, and if that is not the case, forget you read it here.

Presidential politics

George W. Bush, flip-flopping once again on the sensitive issue (sensitive for Bush, the darling of the Christian right) of meeting with gay Republicans, supposedly has just such a meeting on his Austin schedule today (Thursday, April 13). Bush is again signaling that he is finally ready to reach out to gay and lesbian Republicans, but only on his terms, which means that **Rich Tafel**, the popular executive director of the national Log Cabin Republicans, is not among those scheduled to meet with Bush. When I asked one respected gay GOP activist who the Bush camp was listening to, if anyone, I was told that the only "known gay person" that Bush's people trust or want anything to do with is Washington, D.C. City Councilman **David Catania**, already a Bush supporter.

Anti-gay evangelist **Pat Robertson**, said to be calling



D.C. Councilman David Catania

more than a few shots in the Bush campaign, last week said that a moratorium on the death penalty is okay. He acknowledged that it isn't always applied fairly, and this should be welcome news in Bush's Texas, a state with more executions than any other.

Politics and people

And as for that column in the weekly rag that tagged Board of Education member **Juanita Owens** as an "untrustworthy lesbian Latino backroom operator"—you're full of it. Owens, a respected educator, is a heck of a candidate and despite the fact that (according to the column) she has the support of "pretty much the entire Democratic party establishment," the woman is the best candidate in the 5th District and will most likely be elected this fall.

Gay rocker **Elton John**, whose Elton John AIDS Foundation has generated more than \$18 million in the U.S. alone, as well as additional millions of dollars worldwide, will be honored this Saturday night, April 15, in Los Angeles by receiving the **Vito Russo Award** from the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. The award is given to gay entertainers for contributions to combating homophobia.

Out of the great state of Texas comes word that only a year after a Marshall, Texas police chief defended the use of terms offensive to blacks ("porch monkey" and the "N" word were used) Governor Bush named him to head the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education, a powerful state agency that oversees the state's law enforcement training. Bush, naturally, claims that he was "not aware" of his appointee, **Charles Williams**'s past comments. When asked last week about his previous racial comments, Williams told reporters that he didn't mean to offend anyone, but defended his thoughts, saying "you just have to show me where it's even a racial slur; it just depends on how it's used and who it's used toward." Well, okay.

Finally, in a ruling last week on the parental rights of same-sex couples acclaimed as the strongest to date, the New Jersey Supreme Court declared that lesbian partners who raise children have the same legal rights of any parent when deciding custody issues. The New Jersey court unanimously ruled that a lesbian who helped raise her then-lover's twins was a "psychological parent" with legal standing akin to the biological mother, and granted the woman visitation now that the couple has split up. Legal advocates for gay and lesbian rights praised the ruling as the broadest to date in cementing the rights of same-sex partners. ▼

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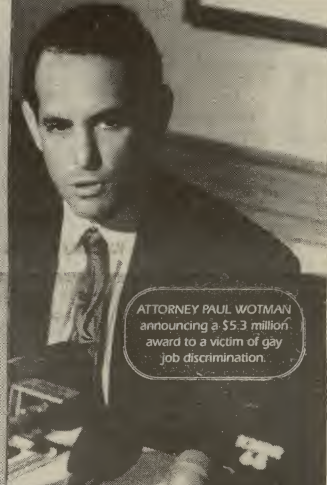
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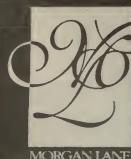


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Past the shame

by Nancy Boutillier

As the religious holidays approach, I realize that I have grown devout. My attendance used to be sporadic, but lately—somewhat in response to recent surgery—I have been going three or four times a week. It is meditative and affirming. I go through the stations mindful of my own gratitude. And when I leave, I feel spent and renewed.

I am, of course, talking about the gym. There I bow before the weight machines and genuflect in repetitions that build my delts and my lats. I fall to my knees to work my abs. Before the chin bar, I am humble. Even when I'm the only one working out, I never feel alone at the gym.

Ironically as it sounds, while working my body in a weight room I most transcend my physical self. With Zen-like awareness of my movements and breathing, I achieve a mental erasure of all earthly concerns. At times, I approach prayer.

If sacred spaces are those that bring a person closer to inner peace and a sense of the divine, then the gym is the most sacred indoor space I know.

Then, a couple of weeks ago, my sanctity and peace were violated in a one quick flash.

I took little note of her the first time I saw her there, but then, and it may have been the third or fourth time our workouts overlapped, I really looked—and knew what I had seen. I could not shake her from my head as I tried to continue in my routine.

Now, when I go to work out, I am distracted, hoping she won't be there. I dread what I might say to her. I feel my sense of purpose and my inner calm slipping.

She is about my age, I think. About my height too. She makes eye contact with no one and arrives already plugged into her Walkman. As she steps to the stationary bicycle, the Stairmaster, or any other machine designed for an aerobic workout, she pulls a magazine from the plastic bag she carries. She does not read *Vogue*, nor thumb through *People*. She devours this month's *Bon Appetite* as the Spandex tights she wears sag off her frame. I try not to pass judgment, but I know too much.

All I want to do was scream "Go away. You are destroying my sanctuary."

You see, she is beyond devout. She's a zealot, a modern day ascetic. She is anorexic.

And how do I know? Because I have been to that land of skin-and-bone, and I have returned to the living, healthy and whole. As a recovered anorexic, I know every telltale sign, and to see a woman that deep in the disease is to know how much

pain and denial she must be in.

So, what I really want to say to this woman is, "I hope you find your way out of whatever abyss you are in. I'm sorry for you. You are starving yourself of so much more than food. I do still remember how hollow I felt when my Spandex sagged. It wasn't easy finding my way out, but it sure has been worth it!"

Worth it because, in retrospect, I can see that my own anorexia was linked to my fear of my sexuality. In fact, the biggest factor in my recovery was, clear and simple: coming out.

Don't get me wrong, it was not my lesbianism that caused my conflicted relationships with food and with my body. It was my struggle to find comfort and confidence in my sexuality—in my case, homosexuality—which caused me to shut myself down, and shut the love of others out. Furthermore, when I did finally come out, there was no overnight cure to the patterns I had developed around food; undoing those took longer than my first relationship with a woman. Nor did I immediately drop the discomfort I felt with my own body after my first lesbian kiss.

However, there is not doubt in my mind that my coming to terms with my sexuality made recovery from my eating disorders possible. Coming out was my first acknowledgment of an appetite—my sexual appetite. It allowed me to loosen the stranglehold I had on my caloric appetite. I let myself listen to my wants, needs, and hungers. I finally let myself indulge!

Perhaps my struggle explains my skepticism toward religious doctrines that encourage—or demand—sexual repression. Worse still are those who suggest that desires—and in particular, homosexual desires—are evil or unnatural.

I learned the hard way that my homosexuality is as necessary to my survival as food is. I proved myself capable of denying my urge for food—but was it healthy? So, don't go asking me to deny my equally natural sexual desire. Health has to do with self-acceptance and moderation—not denial.

So, if I believe that my physical starvation was my Freudian way to suppress my sexual appetite, is it fair to assume that everyone else's disordered eating mirrors their discomfort with their own sexual appetite?

Well, not quite. But, every time I see someone who is anorexic, I know that she is at war with her own body, that she must have some body image issues, and I have a strong suspicion that there is a repression of some desire.

And, well, yes, I do often suspect a battle against sexual desires.

We know that queer youth are at higher risk of alcoholism and suicide than their heterosexual counterparts. Are they at higher risk for eating disorders? Studies do indicate that even though anorexia and bulimia are generally seen as women's diseases, gay and bisexual men have a higher rate of these patterns than their straight peers. And what about dykes and bisexual women? Given the narrow constraints of gender and the taboos on queer sexuality, the struggle with sexual repression and body image linked to anorexia and bulimia seem ripe for queer women.

So, how come so few of us are talking about struggles with eating disorders? How have we built on our understanding that fat is a feminist issue? Where does skinny fit in? How about starvation?

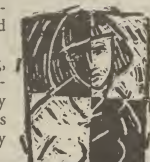
Here are some thoughts on why there is so much silence about anorexia and bulimia in our community: 1) Shame. 2) The belief that we aren't supposed to be influenced by the culture of *Cosmo* and traditional standards of beauty. 3) Shame. 4) We, as lesbians, are supposed to value women's bodies and see beyond conventional standards of beauty. 5) Shame. 6) We are liberated and, therefore, comfortable with our sexual appetites—right? 7) Shame.

The belief that an eating disorder is a self-inflicted condition makes the shame hard to shake. Also, the conditions show some race and class bias for middle-to-upper class white girls/women. And, if I'm not mistaken, so does our visible, privileged lesbian culture. It seems to me that in some segments of our community, the incidence might be quite high—over-achieving, high school perfectionist, lesbian jocks who were elected to student council ... hmmm. Sounds familiar.

It's not a pretty subject, but I am past my shame. Then in comes Stairmaster Girl and I am seeing a chapter in my own life—a chapter I might still be in if I had not let myself love and be loved. Maybe it's because I've weathered the storm of starving myself to rattle-your-ribcage asexuality that I am so at peace at the gym. It is where I am closest to my own personal miracle, my recovery. It is my version of being born again.

It took a kind of faith to let go, to trust my body to its own appetites—god-given appetites, at that. Today, I give thanks for those hungers. I rejoice in feeding those hungers.

I can only wish that discovery for my friend on the Stairmaster. ▼



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Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in their CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Epivir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerit® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Seldane® (terfenadine, for allergies)
- Hismanal® (astemizole, for allergies)
- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute®, Cardioquin®, Quinidex®, and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

- Rifampin (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®

This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarbital
- Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
- Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)
- Epivir (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zerit (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddi)

If you are taking both Videx (ddi) and VIRACEPT: Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Viramune® (nevirapine)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.

- Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)

The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

- Norvir® (ritonavir)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

- Invirase® (saquinavir)

The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. If used in combination with saquinavir hard gelatin capsules at 600 mg three times daily, no dose adjustments are needed. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. The light blue VIRACEPT Tablets should be taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. You do not have to take VIRACEPT exactly every 8 hours. Instead, you can take it at normal times when you are eating.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, **you should not miss any doses.** However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 through 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily

Body Weight		Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets
Kg	Lb			
7	to < 8.5	4	1	-
8.5	to <10.5	5	1 1/4	-
10.5	to <12	6	1 1/2	-
12	to <14	7	1 3/4	-
14	to <16	8	2	-
16	to <18	9	2 1/4	-
18	to <23	10	2 1/2	2
≥23	≥50.5	15	3 3/4	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon will be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

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Issued 11/13/97

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What role have bars played in gay history?

by David Bianco

April 21, 1966 (34 years ago this month): Three gay men stage a "sip-in" to challenge New York's anti-gay liquor laws.

Because of two nights of rioting in June 1969, the Stonewall Inn is the most famous gay bar in the world. But bars played an important role in gay male life and community-building throughout much of the 20th century.

In the early 1900s, a major migration of Americans from the country to the city occurred. Most of these migrants were looking for economic opportunity. But some who were conscious of their same-sex desires were also seeking freedom from family scrutiny. For these young queers, urban watering holes provided a public venue in which they could find potential lovers and friends and ease their feelings of isolation.

Many of the earliest bars catering to a gay clientele emerged out of prohibition-era speakeasies with large queer followings. In San Francisco, Finocchio's first opened in 1929 as a speakeasy, became legal in 1933 with the lifting of prohibition, and soon evolved into a drag bar that came to epitomize gay social life in that city. Finocchio's, which closed in late 1999, was one of many bars that helped gay and lesbian people develop a sense of belonging to an underground culture and community.

World War II was a pivotal moment in the development of gay bars. Large numbers of randy soldiers and sailors on leave descended on cities like New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco looking for places to have a gay old time. As a result, gay bars flourished, even though military leaders tried to crack down on service members to keep them out of clubs like Finocchio's. After the war, many gay men chose to remain in these port towns and created enclaves in which bars served as community centers.

Because bars were the hubs of gay social life, Harry Hay and his compatriots went to Los Angeles clubs in 1950 to recruit members for their new gay rights group, the Mattachine Society. Still, some "homophile" activists frowned on bar culture. Jaye Bell, an early president of the Daughters of Bilitis, thought bars merely fostered despair. "Only the people with

real strength can fight their way out," she wrote in *The Ladder*.

But, in fact, gay political activism germinated in many post-war bars. Some state liquor authorities prevented the sale of alcoholic beverages to "sexual deviants," a policy that resulted in organized crime members operating numerous gay bars while bribing police to look the other way. Police raided bars that didn't pay up, and newspapers printed the names of arrested patrons. Persistent police harassment of gay bars led to an increased political sense among many bar owners and customers that gays were an oppressed minority.

In 1951, for example, Sol Stoumen, owner of the Black Cat in San Francisco, refused to pay bribes to the police and risked losing his liquor license. Instead of caving in, however, Stoumen repeatedly took his case to the courts, amassing legal fees of more than \$38,000.

Stoumen wasn't alone in his acts of defiance. One of his employees, Jose Sarria, entertained at the Black Cat in drag and at the end of his set would lead patrons in the song "God Bless Us Nelly Queens." Sarria's action was revolutionary, one patron averred, because "the vice squad was there. They used to come in and stand around and just generally intimidate people. We were really not saying 'God Save Us Nelly Queens.' We were saying 'We have our rights, too.'"

In 1962, owners and employees of several gay bars in San Francisco formed the Tavern Guild, an alliance to combat harassment of bars and their clients. The Tavern Guild printed and circulated a booklet called the "Pocket Lawyer," which advised gay men what to do if arrested.

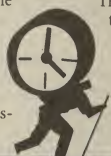
The guild's activism inspired the founding of another early gay rights organization in that city, the Society for Individual Rights.

In New York City, authorities repeatedly closed down gay bars, ostensibly for violating state regulations against serving customers who engaged in disorderly or indecent behavior. In one highly publicized protest, three members of the local Mattachine Society staged a "sip-in" in April 1966 to challenge the state law, which unfairly targeted homosexuals.

Trailed by reporters and photographers, the trio (one of whom, Craig Rodwell, founded the world's first gay bookstore the following year) made the rounds of bars in Greenwich Village, reading aloud a prepared statement. "We the undersigned are homosexuals," they stated. "We believe that a place of public accommodation has an obligation to serve an orderly person." If refused service, the men vowed to report the bar to the State Liquor Authority.

Most bars brought the drinks the men ordered. But at Julius, one of the oldest gay bars in the city,

next page ►



Past Out

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For further reading

Chauncey, George. *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Making of the Gay Male World* (Basic Books, 1994).

D'Emilio, John. *Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities: The Making of a Homosexual Minority in the United States, 1940-1970* (University of Chicago Press, 1983).

Higgs, David, ed. *Queer Sites: Gay Urban Histories Since 1600* (Routledge, 1999).

Komisar, Lucy. "Three Homosexuals in Search of a Drink." *Village Voice* (May 5, 1966), p. 66.

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Cross at the green

by Jane Warner

Castro and Market, April 8, 12:30 a.m.: A man crossing the street fronting Hot Cookie was struck by a car turning onto Castro from Market. Witnesses said the man was walking against the light well outside the crosswalk when he crossed in front of the car traveling at about 10 to 15 miles per hour.

The driver stopped to render aid and the victim was taken to the hospital where he was listed in critical condition with leg fractures and head trauma.

This is the second pedestrian accident at Castro and Market in the last 10 days. The first involved a woman who is still hospitalized and listed in critical condition.

Rain man

18th and Castro, April 3, 1:25 a.m.: A man approached another man in the public parking lot and said, "Give me some money, mother fucking faggot. I know you have some money." When the victim refused and started to walk away, the suspect jabbed the victim in the back with the point of an umbrella, leaving a puncture wound. The victim turned around just in time to block a jab to his face, but the point of the umbrella punctured his hand. The victim ran toward Collingwood and the suspect was chased away by people standing in the area. Responding police found the suspect skateboarding, toward Sanchez holding an open umbrella over his shoulder. Booked for attempt-

ed robbery, aggravated assault, drunk in public, and outstanding warrants was Leonard Harper, 33.

Carved for attention

Castro and 18th, April 2, 6:30 p.m.: A man was approached by a past acquaintance on the corner who told him, "Help me out, I need some money. I can cut your guts out right now if I want." The suspect brandished a knife and pointed it at the victim's stomach. The victim handed the suspect \$20 and then ran into Walgreens. Passing residents alerted a police officer in the area, who arrested the suspect at the scene. Booked for robbery was Christopher Hamilton, 32.

Tartar control

18th and Castro, April 4, 5:40 p.m.: Police responded to reports of a man screaming and vandalizing the news rack on the corner of 18th and Castro. Before they

could arrive, however, a man called to report that a suspect fitting the same description was threatening the manager of Cala Foods with a toothbrush and clearing shelves of merchandise off with his hand. Police found the suspect on Diamond Street and took him to the hospital for a 72-hour psychiatric hold.

Hair today, gone tomorrow

24-Hour Fitness, 2145 Market, April 3, 1:20 a.m.: A man with a history of trespassing at 24-Hour Fitness gyms in the city sneaked into the Market Street location, stripped, entered the co-ed sauna, and sprayed shaving cream over the entire length of his body. The suspect began shaving his body hair, throwing residue throughout the sauna. When asked to leave, the suspect refused, saying, "Fuck you, I'm not leaving." Police arrived and booked Andre Maximilian, 32, for trespassing. ▼



Past Out

◀ previous page

the bartender turned them down. The activists took their case to the city's human rights commission and eventually to the courts. The following year, a state appellate court overturned the discriminatory liquor law. The harassment abated but didn't stop — just two

years after the court decision, the Stonewall Inn exploded in violence following a police raid that proved to be one raid too many.

With the rise of AIDS and the recovery movement in the 1980s, community centers in many cities began to rival bars as gay social centers. But in smaller towns, bars continue their hegemony among gay gathering places that they have enjoyed since the early 1900s. ▼



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SUSTIVATM is the first HIV drug approved to be taken once-a-day as part of your combination therapy. Just take three 200 mg capsules together once daily, with or without food; high fat meals should be avoided. Your doctor may suggest taking SUSTIVA at bedtime to reduce any side effects you may experience.

SUSTIVA, an NNRTI*, must be used in combination with other HIV drugs.

SUSTIVA is tough on HIV. It reduces the amount of virus in your blood and increases the number of CD4 cells. SUSTIVA can even be used in young children, 3 years of age or older. This is based on results from controlled clinical trials at 24 weeks. Presently, there are no results from controlled clinical trials showing the long-term effects of SUSTIVA.

SUSTIVA has manageable side effects. Most side effects are mild to moderate and can be managed. The most significant side effects associated with SUSTIVA therapy have been nervous system symptoms (dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating and/or abnormal dreams) and rash. These usually subside within the first two to four weeks of treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. Taking SUSTIVA at bedtime may help make nervous system symptoms less noticeable.

Now listed
among preferred
anti-HIV regimens in
government guidelines.¹

Pregnancy should be avoided in women receiving SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in primates dosed with SUSTIVA. Barrier contraception should always be used in combination with other methods of contraception.

Talk to your doctor when you start taking SUSTIVA. SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Always tell your doctor if you are taking, starting or changing any prescription or non-prescription medicine when taking SUSTIVA. Your doctor may change your medicines or change their dose. You should discuss your prior medical conditions (such as mental illness, substance abuse, hepatitis, etc.) with your doctor before taking SUSTIVA.

We know that coping with HIV is difficult enough. Your treatment doesn't have to be. Ask your doctor about SUSTIVA. For more important information see the next page for Patient Information about SUSTIVA.

FOR HIV

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*NNRTI - non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor.

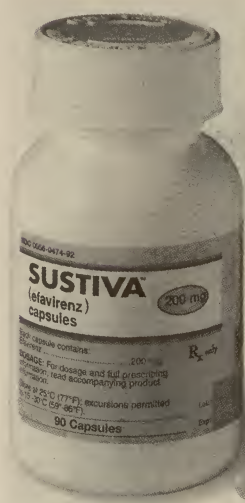
For more information on SUSTIVA, call 1-800-4PHARMA or visit our website at <http://www.sustiva.com>. For more information on the updated DHHS Guidelines, a PDF file of the guidelines is available at <http://www.hivatis.org>.

1. Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV Infection, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), May 1999.

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DuPont Pharmaceuticals



Once Daily SUSTIVA™ efavirenz

SUSTIVA™ (efavirenz) capsules Patient Information about SUSTIVA* (sus-TEE-vah)

for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection
Generic name: efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)

Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz)
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. Rarely, patients have more serious side effects that may affect mood or ability to think clearly. These side effects occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness or substance abuse. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA: **

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA: **

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

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Wilmington, DE 19880
Issued September, 1998



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*Based on vertex studies at 2 years of men 18 to 41 with mild to moderate hair loss. There is not evidence that PROPECIA works for receding hairlines at the temples.

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IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION YOU SHOULD KNOW

PROPECIA is for men only. Women who are or may potentially be pregnant must not use PROPECIA because of the risk that the active ingredient may cause a specific kind of birth defect. (See accompanying Patient Product Information for details.) Likewise, they should avoid handling the tablets when they're crushed or broken. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling.

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Take PROPECIA daily and you could see results in as little as three months. If you stop taking it, however, your results will gradually go away over twelve months. And if it hasn't worked in twelve months, it is unlikely to be of benefit.

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Please read the next page for additional information about PROPECIA.

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Propecia® (Finasteride) Tablets

Patient Information about PROPECIA®
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PROPECIA® is for use by MEN ONLY.

Please read this leaflet before you start taking PROPECIA. Also, read the information included with PROPECIA each time you renew your prescription, just in case anything has changed. Remember, this leaflet does not take the place of careful discussions with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss PROPECIA when you start taking your medication and at regular checkups.

What is PROPECIA used for?

PROPECIA is used for the treatment of male pattern hair loss on the vertex and the anterior mid-scalp area. PROPECIA is for use by **MEN ONLY** and should **NOT** be used by women or children.

What is male pattern hair loss?

Male pattern hair loss is a common condition in which men experience thinning of the hair on the scalp. Often, this results in a receding hairline and/or balding on the top of the head. These changes typically begin gradually in men in their 20s. Doctors believe male pattern hair loss is due to heredity and is dependent on hormonal effects. Doctors refer to this type of hair loss as androgenetic alopecia.

Results of clinical studies:

For 12 months, doctors studied over 1800 men aged 18 to 41 with mild to moderate amounts of ongoing hair loss. All men, whether receiving PROPECIA or placebo (a pill containing no medication) were given a medicated shampoo (Neutrogena T/Gel® Shampoo). Of these men, approximately 1200 with hair loss at the top of the head were studied for an additional 12 months. In general, men who took PROPECIA maintained or increased the number of visible scalp hairs and noticed improvement in their hair in the first year, with the effect maintained in the second year. Hair counts in men who did not take PROPECIA continued to decrease.

In one study, patients were questioned on the growth of body hair. PROPECIA did not appear to affect hair in places other than the scalp.

Will PROPECIA work for me?

For most men, PROPECIA increases the number of scalp hairs, helping to fill in thin or balding areas of the scalp. Men taking PROPECIA noted a slowing of hair loss during two years of use. Although results will vary, generally you will not be able to grow back all of the hair you have lost. There is not sufficient evidence that PROPECIA works in the treatment of receding hairline in the temporal area on both sides of the head.

Male pattern hair loss occurs gradually over time. On average, healthy hair grows only about half an inch each month. Therefore, it will take time to see any effect.

You may need to take PROPECIA daily for three months or more before you see a benefit from taking PROPECIA. PROPECIA can only work over the long term if you continue taking it. If the drug has not worked for you in twelve months, further treatment is unlikely to be of benefit. If you stop taking PROPECIA, you will likely lose the hair you have gained within 12 months of stopping treatment. You should discuss this with your doctor.

How should I take PROPECIA?

Follow your doctor's instructions.

- Take one tablet by mouth each day.
- You may take PROPECIA with or without food.
- If you forget to take PROPECIA, do not take an extra tablet. Just take the next tablet as usual.

PROPECIA will not work faster or better if you take it more than once a day.

Who should NOT take PROPECIA?

- PROPECIA is for the treatment of male pattern hair loss in **MEN ONLY** and should not be taken by women or children.
- Anyone allergic to any of the ingredients.

A warning about PROPECIA and pregnancy.

- Women who are or may potentially be pregnant:
 - must not use PROPECIA
 - should not handle crushed or broken tablets of PROPECIA.

If a woman who is pregnant with a male baby absorbs the active ingredient in PROPECIA, either by swallowing or through the skin, it may cause abnormalities of a male baby's sex organs. If a woman who is pregnant comes into contact with the active ingredient in PROPECIA, a doctor should be consulted. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

What are the possible side effects of PROPECIA?

Like all prescription products, PROPECIA may cause side effects. In clinical studies, side effects from PROPECIA were uncommon and did not affect most men. A small number of men experienced certain sexual side effects. These men reported one or more of the following: less desire for sex; difficulty in achieving an erection; and, a decrease in the amount of semen. Each of these side effects occurred in less than 2% of men. These side effects went away in men who stopped taking PROPECIA. They also disappeared in most men who continued taking PROPECIA.

In general use, the following have been reported infrequently: allergic reactions including rash, itching, hives and swelling of the lips and face; problems with ejaculation; breast tenderness and enlargement; and testicular pain.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual side effects.

- PROPECIA can affect a blood test called PSA (Prostate-Specific Antigen) for the screening of prostate cancer. If you have a PSA test done, you should tell your doctor that you are taking PROPECIA.

Storage and handling.

Keep PROPECIA in the original container and keep the container closed. Store it in a dry place at room temperature. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

Do not give your PROPECIA tablets to anyone else. It has been prescribed only for you. Keep PROPECIA and all medications out of the reach of children.

THIS LEAFLET PROVIDES A SUMMARY OF INFORMATION ABOUT PROPECIA. IF AFTER READING THIS LEAFLET YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR ARE NOT SURE ABOUT ANYTHING, ASK YOUR DOCTOR.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

CUAV

◀ page 1

ing transgenders for sex work, using the wrong pronoun and refusing to recognize a person's legal identification, and performing illegal pat searches," according to Shawna Virago, CUAV's survivor advocate. "It is not the job of law enforcement to police gender expression."

On the flip side, 75 percent of San Francisco police officers were said to be "courteous" to victims reporting an anti-LGBT hate crime. LGBT hate crimes occurred most in South of Market, the Tenderloin, the Castro, and the Mission, but a record number

of anti-LGBT assaults were reported throughout the Bay Area, a number blamed for the most part on gentrification.

As more LGBT people are forced out of the city, the power in numbers decreases. Additionally, since many LGBT people must seek housing elsewhere, their new communities — often unaccustomed to seeing gay people — respond to this new visibility with violence, resulting in more anti-gay attacks in smaller towns.

It is for this reason that in addition to improving police training and ridding the courts of the gay panic "licenses to kill," CUAV recommends that gentrification be addressed.

"LGBTs are moving out of the city, and we need to fight for a living wage and affordable housing," said Virago.

Other recommendations from CUAV include calling on schools to address homophobia and honor gay-straight alliances, and demanding that the media report all hate crimes for what they are.

"Publicizing hate and bias will generate the pressure necessary for the problem to be addressed," stated CUAV's local recommendations in the national report. "We need to understand the links between violence against GLBT people, and related violence against communities of color, the poor, and other marginalized groups." ▼

Dancing till deaf

◀ page 1

fearing from permanent ringing in the ears (tinnitus) as a result of performing with her punk rock band at the Oakland Coliseum in 1984. She hopes to raise awareness of the dangerous decibel levels at dance clubs which still lags years behind the rock industry.

Clients at one of HEAR's clinics agreed. "Earplugs are more acceptable in concerts than dance clubs," says John Tramel. Tramel, 30, plays in a rock band and has noticed that about 30 percent of attendees wear earplugs. Tramel was getting custom-fitted musicians earplugs, which have the effect of lowering the decibel level without distorting the sound. The plugs cost \$150 but HEAR will discount that fee for most musician union members.

Peck targets her educational efforts towards young people who think hearing loss is something that happens much later in life. "It needs to be taken seriously, too many people think that hearing

loss is old age, and it's not."

She was recently contacted by an audiologist from Alaska concerned about children who suffered hearing loss from blasting the volume on their portable stereo headphones. The audiologist was worried because the children couldn't hear bears walking in the snow. "They were afraid their lives were threatened," says Peck.

A University of Florida study backed up that concern. It found that 17 percent of adolescents are already suffering from some degree of hearing loss.

HEAR is one of the few organizations in the world that targets the problem of young people and hearing loss. Last year, it received the largest grant the Recording Academy (the Grammys) has ever awarded. The academy gave HEAR \$30,000 as seed money to begin analyzing data it has collected over the past decade. HEAR hopes to raise a total of \$178,000 in order to hire a research scientist and a statistician and to obtain the necessary equipment to complete the project.

HEAR gets no government

money and relies on donations and grants. Peck says it's a "constant struggle" to stay afloat. HEAR has no funding to pay for medical professionals and has to rely on volunteer audiologists to run its monthly hearing clinic.

Youth didn't shield Peck from hearing damage. She was in her early 20s in 1984 when she got tinnitus from one concert at the Oakland Coliseum. Persistent ringing in the ears has driven some tinnitus sufferers to depression and even suicide, but for Peck, it's a constant reminder that more needs to be done. ▼

Earplug info

There are two basic kinds of earplugs you can buy in almost any drugstore very inexpensively: foam and putty-type. Whichever kind you choose, look on the label for its decibel rating.

Foam earplugs generally block up to 31 decibels. Putty-type earplugs usually are rated to block up to 22 decibels but some people find them more effective because they fit more snugly over the ear canal.

Experimentation is key. Try different types and use the one that works best for you. If you still notice even slight ringing in your ears when you leave a club, try a stronger earplug.

Stay away from earplugs specifically made for swimmers unless the plug has a noise reduction rating on the label. Most swimmers' earplugs are designed to block water, not noise, although there are a few that effectively do both. ▼ — Ed Walsh

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www.betterhearing.org

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American Tinnitus Association
1-800-634-8978. www.ata.org

Hearing Society for the Bay Area, Inc., (415) 693-5870
info@hearingsociety.org

League of the Hard of Hearing Noise Center, 1-888-NOISE88
www.lhh.org/noise/

For a free telephone hearing test sponsored by Mills-Peninsula Hospital call (650) 696-4327. But experts caution telephone hearing tests are on a broad pass-fail scale and no substitute for the test you'll get in the office of a hearing health professional. You could still have hearing loss and pass the phone test.

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LBT health forum breaks down barriers

by Katie Szymanski

We're women, we're queer, and nobody knows a thing about us when it comes to our unique health concerns.

The Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Women's Health Forum—held last Friday, April 7 in San Francisco—sought to change that, by educating the average queer woman about her risks and special needs, and educating heterosexual doctors and providers on a range of issues most of them probably never considered.

Hosted by Mayor Willie Brown

and Supervisor Leslie Katz, the forum cut through the assumptions and made clear exactly what it means to have or be a lesbian, bisexual, or transgender woman patient. Not only do doctors need to know the medical needs of lesbians, but they also need to learn how to define sexual orientation in general. Patients, of course, need an environment where they can be open, as withholding information doesn't help anyone.

Dr. Kate O'Hanlan, a leading researcher in lesbian health who used to be on the staff at Stanford University and who still performs operations there, gave the keynote speech that touched on a number of issues, including homophobia, which she termed "legally sanctioned apartheid."

A study of 930 physicians in San Diego, she said, revealed that many are "uncomfortable" seeing LBT patients. "We see them mistreating gay and lesbian people and we wonder why lesbians are alienated from health care," O'Hanlan said. "Homophobia is the health hazard, not homosexuality."

"Hatred is a health hazard," she added.

Dr. Cynthia Gomez, a clinical psychologist and an assistant professor at the University of California, San Francisco, spoke about the 1999 Institute of Medicine Report, which led to last week's forum. Gomez was on the committee that edited the report.

Dr. Rhoda Nussbaum, with Kaiser Permanente, addressed



Dr. Kate O'Hanlan

LBT health from the HMO perspective, and said that Kaiser had just developed a booklet for its staff that addresses cultural competency for the LGBT communities. "The organization is really making an organized effort," she said, although during a question and answer period that followed, Nussbaum acknowledged that Kaiser does not cover sexual reassignment surgery for transgender patients. It does, however, cover hormone therapy, she said.

How lesbians have sex

First and foremost, doctors need to know the variety of ways that LBT women have sex, a graphic vision that many heterosexual doctors either ignore or be-

page 27 ►

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Bush to meet with gays

by Bob Roehr

Presumptive Republican presidential nominee George W. Bush is sitting down for a first-ever official meeting with gay Republicans Thursday, April 13. But the exercise seems to have exacerbated rather than calmed his relations with the gay community because of who was invited and who was not.

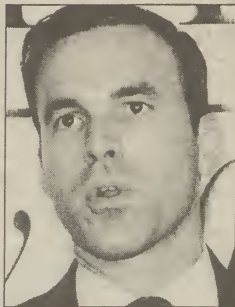
Among those excluded were the national leadership of Log Cabin Republicans, specifically Executive Director Rich Tafel, board chair Bob Stears, and their close associates.

Some observers are suggesting that the Bush campaign is uneasy with the "gay issue" and just wishes it would go away. Thus they chose to meet only with people who have already endorsed the governor.

Others believe that the gay organizers, Charles Francis and Carl Schmid, are not serving Bush well but are using the opportunity to advance their personal agendas. One source, who requested anonymity, called it "a feud over who is going to be the alpha male among gay Republicans."

Francis is a Washington lobbyist with long-standing personal ties to Laura Bush, wife of the governor. Over the last few years he has helped Log Cabin organize and raise money in Texas. He came out publicly only last summer and, as one person said, "He doesn't have much experience in the rough and tumble of gay or activist politics."

Schmid is another Washington lobbyist, a former president of the local Log Cabin chapter, and is well connected to the local Republican Party. His disagreements with Tafel date from when he was employed part-time as an AIDS lobbyist for Log Cabin and was dismissed. He subsequently ran a



Log Cabin's Rich Tafel

protest campaign for the national board, was elected, and attended one meeting before he resigned.

Schmid cited "attack ads" that Log Cabin ran on the radio in several markets immediately before the March 7 Super Tuesday primary and made the case that loyal gay supporters of Bush should be rewarded with an invitation before those who supported McCain.

By that measure a case can be made that Schmid and former Republican Congressman Steve Gunderson should not be among the dozen invitees to Austin. Both are members of the board of the Human Rights Campaign, which in February unanimously endorsed Al Gore for president.

Schmid agreed that Bush's record and statements on gay issues are not very supportive. He is going to Austin to help "further define" those "through our personal stories." He declined to discuss specifics they will be seeking. He sees this encounter as "open[ing] the door to future meetings that can include the Log Cabin leadership."

David Hanson, president of the eight chapters and 1,000 members of Log Cabin California, was asked about his interest in attending the meeting by Bush's California cam-

paign coordinator. Hanson wanted to know more and asked that either Francis or Schmid contact him directly. They never did.

"I don't want to get involved with internal turmoil with national people," said Hanson. "George Bush has let some people set this up who have personality conflicts with Rich Tafel."

Tafel sees the Bush campaign's unease with gay issues as the core of the problem. "Republicans tend to play off of old playbooks," he said, "and no issue has changed more in the last 20 years than the gay issue. It is very hard for some GOP candidates to get that."

Twenty years ago the gay vote was perceived as being minuscule and far to the left. Today, much of it is in the political center and likely to swing between parties according to its interests. The press understands this and uses gay issues as a broader litmus test of tolerance.

"Gay Republicans who blindly support Republican candidates are disempowering themselves," according to Tafel. "It is only when the person says 'I will go elsewhere if I have to,' that you become competitive."

Marty Keller is a political veteran who served in the administration of California Governor George Deukmejian. He said that standing "for those founding principles of the GOP embodied by Abraham Lincoln is much more important both for our 'community' and to the country in the long run than whether we officially support the nominee."

"It is better for Log Cabin to remain true to its founding vision than to blur its commitment to it by lowering the price of its political support," he said. "It is only a compelling and unyielding refusal to abandon its founding principles that has created, and will continue to create, any clout that its small numbers cannot." ▼

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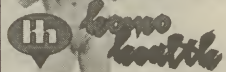
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MMOW

◀ page 1

in this week's *San Francisco Chronicle* suggested that Bay Area LGBT people simply couldn't afford the flight to Washington, D.C., or were complacent due to living in such a gay-friendly city, the reality is that many are taking a stand against participating in a march built upon an exclusionary process.

"This march is actually detrimental to our community," said longtime local activist Vince Quackenbush, who participated in past marches on Washington, which occurred in 1979, 1987, and 1993. "It uncritically replicates and propagates the racism, elitism, and consumerism that need to be confronted if we are to achieve the justice our movement seeks."

Indeed, public outcry about a lack of representation from grassroots groups did not deter the march board from moving full-speed ahead in obtaining corporate sponsors and producing mass advertising even before deciding on an agenda or message for the event.

MMOW's tactics first angered the public, then pushed out some of its own members, resulting in internal chaos. Philadelphian Michael Williams, an African American, was the latest to leave MMOW.

"I believe in the mission of the march," Williams told a Philadelphia newspaper last month, "but I've become suspicious."

Williams said that as a person

of color, "the whole board let me down."

Williams's resignation came on the heels of the resignation of MMOW's co-executive director Malcolm Lazin, which followed the resignation of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Kerry Lobel and the ousting of MMOW's executive producer Robin Tyler.

The Ad Hoc Committee, which advocates not marching on April 30, boasts several hundred endorsers, including local heroes such as poet and novelist Jewelle Gomez and openly gay San Francisco Supervisor Tom Ammiano.

"This thing's been under the gaydar and there's a lot of progressive ambivalence about its origins that has soured it a bit," Ammiano told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I know people who are going and I'm happy for them. I'd like it to mean something. I'm not going to go; it hasn't been on the top of my shopping list."

Openly gay Supervisor Mark Leno is not attending the march due to a prior engagement with his family. As the *B.A.R.* went to press, staffers for openly lesbian Supervisor Leslie Katz said she was "still considering her decision."

MMOW Executive Director Diane Hardy-Garcia said that protesting the march by not participating is "dangerous," considering the lack of civil rights protections for LGBT people in this country.

"I'm from Texas, and we didn't have big meetings where we were asked if we wanted a march; it was always planned by people on the

coast. It's a falsehood to say that the previous marches were in some way majorly democratic," Hardy-Garcia told the *B.A.R.* At the same time, however, Hardy-Garcia acknowledged problems with the process.

"There were some legitimate complaints. As a person of color, I had them, too. But I opted to change it, not just bitch about it. I have much more respect for people who don't just bitch on the sidelines. You don't like this march? Call another one. Hell, I'll come."

There is, of course, at least one affirmative RSVP to the April 30 event. Never one to miss a march, the Reverend Fred Phelps has announced his plans to attend, complete with his "God Hates Fags" entourage. ▼

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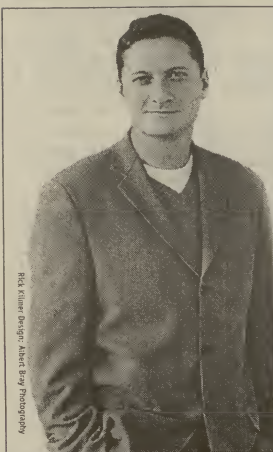


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Learning from Latinos

Cultural regulation of sexuality

by Bill Snow, Survive
 AIDS Writers Pool

Dr. Raphael Diaz of the University of California, San Francisco Center for AIDS Prevention Studies has done important research that he believes illustrates how HIV is spreading faster among Latino gay and bisexual men than in the gay community at large. From his findings, he has developed a model that has consequences for other minority populations and the rest of us as well.

Almost all research about HIV prevention is based on the notion that each of us should be the same in our ability to control sexual or injection practices. If we could just get enough counseling or hear the right messages, those who "slip" would see the error of their ways and reform. The most sophisticated models propose that there are multiple stages of behavior change that a person must pass through to reach the enlightened nirvana of safety. This reliance on the ability of strong intentions to control behavior puts an extraordinary burden on prevention providers and individuals at risk, but even a strong intention to practice safer sex is only a weak predictor of consistently practicing safer sex in this population.

In a study, called *Nuestras Voces*, National Latino Gay Men's study, Diaz's research team

worked with three Latino populations - Mexicans in California, Puerto Ricans in New York, and Cubans in Florida - speaking with and analyzing discussions with over 900 gay and bisexual Latino men. The majority (75 percent) were immigrants, with 39 percent in the U.S. 10 years or less and 83 percent reporting substantial use of the Spanish language with peers. Unlike the highly assimilated gay Latinos that are typically recruited from mainstream gay locations, this sample gives the perspective of homosexual men who also suffer the social and economic discrimination of ethnic minority groups. Even though this is a relatively young (84 percent between 20-40 years of age) and highly educated group of men (69 percent reported some college or more), only 54 percent were employed full time at the time of the study, with a reported unemployment rate of 27 percent.

Diaz believes that it is crucial to understand the contexts that compete with the enactment of personal intentions of safer sex. He proposes that there is a dynamic tension between cultural regulation and self-regulation in the practice of safer sex, for everyone. He believes we have not paid enough attention to the processes and circumstances under which intentions can or cannot be acted upon. It is his belief that intentions only lead to behavior when individuals have power and control over the consequences of their behavior, or have enough resources to deal with the negative outcomes or consequences of acting on their intentions. Unfortunately, he reminds us, this is not the case for those groups where HIV is spreading at faster rates in

this country: gay men of color, minority women, and the young.

By analyzing focus group discussions with these men, Diaz and his group have identified a set of barriers or competing factors to the enactment of safer sex intentions in Latino gay and bisexual men. To simplify, these can be summed up as: machismo, homophobia, family cohesion (close personal involvement with homophobic families), sexual silence, poverty, and racism. Diaz believes that homophobia and sexual silence in Latin culture (families, churches, and communities) is the major obstacle to sexual self-regulation for Latino gay men because treating homosexuality as secret, forbidden, and shameful makes self-observation extremely difficult and loaded with deeply felt and poorly understood emotions. It is as if "gay liberation" hasn't reached them yet.

Commonly these individuals are unable to explain to themselves or others why risky behavior occurs and may actually be puzzled why they continue to practice risky sex with the best and strongest intentions not to. They may simply and genuinely answer "I don't know."

Meanwhile, many Latino men still can follow safer sex intentions that seem to contradict cultural norms. This ability seems to be associated with what Diaz and his group call "resiliency factors," family acceptance, social and sexual satisfaction, social and political networks and activism, and gay role models in childhood.

Such a study of subjective "reasons" for unprotected intercourse among gay men is not new. However, research studies based on in-

page 27 ►

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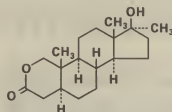
Contraindications: 1) known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate or the male breast; 2) carcinoma of the breast in females with hypercalcemia (androgenic anabolic steroids may stimulate osteolytic bone resorption); 3) pregnancy, because of possible masculinization of the fetus. Oxandrin has been shown to cause embryotoxicity, fetotoxicity, infertility, and masculinization of female animal offspring when given in doses 9 times the human dose; 4) nephrosis, the nephrotic phase of nephritis; 5) hypercalcemia.

References: 1. Strawford A, Barbieri T, Van Loan M, et al. Resistance exercise and supraphysiologic androgen therapy in eugonadal men with HIV-related weight loss: a randomized controlled trial. *JAMA*. 1999;281:1282-1290. 2. Fisher A, Abbaticola M, the Oxandrolone Study Group. The effects of oxandrolone on body weight and composition in patients with HIV-associated weight loss. Presented at: 5th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections; February 1-5, 1998; Chicago, Ill. Abstract. 3. Berger JR, Pall L, Hall CD, et al. Oxandrolone in AIDS-wasting myopathy. *AIDS*. 1996;10:1657-1662.

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 (oxandrolone tablets, USP)

DESCRIPTION

Oxandrin® oral tablets contain 2.5 mg of the anabolic steroid oxandrolone. Oxandrolone is 17 β -hydroxy-17 α -methyl-2-oxa-5 α -androstan-3-one with the following structural formula:



Inactive ingredients include cornstarch, lactose, magnesium stearate, and hydroxypropyl methylcellulose.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Anabolic steroids are synthetic derivatives of testosterone. Certain clinical effects and adverse reactions demonstrate the androgenic properties of this class of drugs. Complete dissociation of anabolic and androgenic effects has not been achieved. The actions of anabolic steroids are therefore similar to those of male sex hormones with the possibility of causing serious disturbances of growth and sexual development if given to young children. Anabolic steroids suppress the gonadotropic functions of the pituitary and may exert a direct effect upon the testes.

During exogenous administration of anabolic androgens, endogenous testosterone release is inhibited through inhibition of pituitary luteinizing hormone (LH). At large doses, spermatogenesis may be suppressed through feedback inhibition of pituitary follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH).

Anabolic steroids have been reported to increase low-density lipoproteins and decrease high-density lipoproteins. These levels revert to normal on discontinuation of treatment.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Oxandrin is indicated as adjunctive therapy to promote weight gain after weight loss following extensive surgery, chronic infections, or severe trauma, and in some patients who without definite pathophysiologic reasons fail to gain or to maintain normal weight, to offset the protein catabolism associated with prolonged administration of corticosteroids, and for the relief of the bone pain frequently accompanying osteoporosis (See **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

Oxandrolone is classified as a controlled substance under the Anabolic Steroids Control Act of 1990 and has been assigned to Schedule III (non-narcotic).

CONTRAINDICATIONS

1. Known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate or the male breast.
2. Carcinoma of the breast in females with hypercalcemia (androgenic anabolic steroids may stimulate osteolytic bone resorption).
3. Pregnancy, because of possible masculinization of the fetus. Oxandrin has been shown to cause embryotoxicity, fetotoxicity, infertility, and masculinization of female animal offspring when given in doses 9 times the human dose.
4. Nephrosis, the nephrotic phase of nephritis.
5. Hypercalcemia.

WARNINGS

PELIOSIS HEPATIS, A CONDITION IN WHICH LIVER AND SOMETIMES SPLENIC TISSUE IS REPLACED WITH BLOOD-FILLED CYSTS, HAS BEEN REPORTED IN PATIENTS RECEIVING ANDROGENIC ANABOLIC STEROID THERAPY. THESE CYSTS ARE SOMETIMES PRESENT WITH MINIMAL HEPATIC DYSFUNCTION, BUT AT OTHER TIMES THEY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH LIVER FAILURE. THEY ARE OFTEN NOT RECOGNIZED UNTIL LIFE-THREATENING LIVER FAILURE OR INTRA-ABDOMINAL HEMORRHAGE DEVELOPS. WITHDRAWAL OF DRUG USUALLY RESULTS IN COMPLETE DISAPPEARANCE OF LESIONS.

LIVER CELL TUMORS ARE ALSO REPORTED. MOST OFTEN THESE TUMORS ARE BENIGN AND ANDROGEN-DEPENDENT, BUT FATAL MALIGNANT TUMORS HAVE BEEN REPORTED. WITHDRAWAL OF DRUG OFTEN RESULTS IN REGRESSION OR CESSATION OF PROGRESSION OF THE TUMOR. HOWEVER, HEPATIC TUMORS ASSOCIATED WITH ANDROGENS OR ANABOLIC STEROIDS ARE MUCH MORE VASCULAR THAN OTHER HEPATIC TUMORS AND MAY BE SILENT UNTIL LIFE-THREATENING INTRA-ABDOMINAL HEMORRHAGE DEVELOPS. BLOOD LIPID CHANGES THAT ARE KNOWN TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH INCREASED RISK OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS ARE SEEN IN PATIENTS TREATED WITH ANDROGENS OR ANABOLIC STEROIDS. THESE CHANGES INCLUDE DECREASED HIGH-DENSITY LIPOPROTEINS AND SOMETIMES INCREASED LOW-DENSITY LIPOPROTEINS. THE CHANGES MAY BE VERY MARKED AND COULD HAVE A SERIOUS IMPACT ON THE RISK OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS AND CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE.

Cholestatic hepatitis and jaundice may occur with 17-alpha-alkylated androgens at a relatively low dose. If cholestatic hepatitis with jaundice appears or if liver function tests become abnormal, oxandrolone should be discontinued and the etiology should be determined. Drug-induced jaundice is reversible when the medication is discontinued.

In patients with breast cancer, anabolic steroid therapy may cause hypercalcemia by stimulating osteolysis. Oxandrolone therapy should be discontinued if hypercalcemia occurs.

Edema with or without congestive heart failure may be a serious complication in patients with pre-existing cardiac, renal, or hepatic disease. Concomitant administration of adrenal cortical steroid or ACTH may increase the edema.

In children, androgen therapy may accelerate bone maturation without producing compensatory gain in linear growth. This adverse effect results in compromised adult height. The younger the child, the greater the risk of compromising final mature height. The effect on bone maturation should be monitored by assessing bone age of the left wrist and hand every 6 months (See **PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory tests**).

Geriatric patients treated with androgenic anabolic steroids may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

ANABOLIC STEROIDS HAVE NOT BEEN SHOWN TO ENHANCE ATHLETIC ABILITY.

PRECAUTIONS**General:**

Women should be observed for signs of virilization (deepening of the voice, hirsutism, acne, clitoromegaly). Discontinuation of drug therapy at the time of evidence of mild virilism is necessary to prevent irreversible virilization. Some virilizing changes in women are irreversible even after prompt discontinuance of therapy and are not prevented by concomitant use of estrogens. Menstrual irregularities may also occur.

Anabolic steroids may cause suppression of clotting factors II, V, VII, and X, and an increase in prothrombin time.

Information for patients:

The physician should instruct patients to report any of the following side effects of androgens:

Males: Too frequent or persistent erections of the penis, appearance or aggravation of acne.

Females: Hoarseness, acne, changes in menstrual periods, or more facial hair.

All patients: Nausea, vomiting, changes in skin color, or ankle swelling.

Laboratory tests:

Women with disseminated breast carcinoma should have frequent determination of urine and serum calcium levels during the course of therapy (See **WARNINGS**).

Because of the hepatotoxicity associated with the use of 17-alpha-alkylated androgens, liver function tests should be obtained periodically.

Periodic (every 6 months) x-ray examinations of bone age should be made during treatment of children to determine the rate of bone maturation and the effects of androgen therapy on the epiphyseal centers.

Serum lipids and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol determinations should be done periodically as androgenic anabolic steroids have been reported to increase low-density lipoproteins. Serum cholesterol levels may increase during therapy. Therefore, caution is required when administering these agents to patients with a history of myocardial infarction or coronary artery disease. Serial determinations of serum cholesterol should be made and therapy adjusted accordingly.

Hemoglobin and hematocrit should be checked periodically for polycythemia in patients who are receiving high doses of anabolic steroids.

Drug interactions**Anticoagulants:**

Anabolic steroids may increase sensitivity to oral anticoagulants. Dosage of the anticoagulant may have to be decreased in order to maintain desired prothrombin time. Patients receiving oral anticoagulant therapy require close monitoring, especially when anabolic steroids are started or stopped.

Oral hypoglycemic agents:

Oxandrolone may inhibit the metabolism of oral hypoglycemic agents.

Adrenal steroids or ACTH:

In patients with edema, concomitant administration with adrenal cortical steroids or ACTH may increase the edema.

Drug/Laboratory test interactions:

Anabolic steroids may decrease levels of thyroxine-binding globulin, resulting in decreased total T₄ serum levels and increased resin uptake of T₃ and T₄. Free thyroid hormone levels remain unchanged. In addition, a decrease in PBI and radioactive iodine uptake may occur.

Carcinogenesis, mutagenesis, impairment of fertility**Animal data:**

Oxandrolone has not been tested in laboratory animals for carcinogenic or mutagenic effects. In 2-year chronic oral rat studies, a dose-related reduction of spermatogenesis and decreased organ weights (testes, prostate, seminal vesicles, ovaries, uterus, adrenals, and pituitary) were shown.

Human data:

Liver cell tumors have been reported in patients receiving long-term therapy with androgenic anabolic steroids in high doses (See **WARNINGS**). Withdrawal of the drugs did not lead to regression of the tumors in all cases.

Geriatric patients treated with androgenic anabolic steroids may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

Pregnancy:

Teratogenic effects—Pregnancy Category X (See **CONTRAINDICATIONS**).

Nursing mothers:

It is not known whether anabolic steroids are excreted in human milk. Because of the potential of serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from oxandrolone, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

Pediatric use:

Anabolic agents may accelerate epiphyseal maturation more rapidly than linear growth in children and the effect may continue for 6 months after the drug has been stopped. Therefore, therapy should be monitored by x-ray studies at 6-month intervals in order to avoid the risk of compromising adult height. Androgenic anabolic steroid therapy should be used very cautiously in children and only by specialists who are aware of the effects on bone maturation (See **WARNINGS**).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following adverse reactions have been associated with use of anabolic steroids:

Hepatic: Cholestatic jaundice with, rarely, hepatic necrosis and death. Hepatocellular neoplasms and peliosis hepatis with long-term therapy (See **WARNINGS**). Reversible changes in liver function tests also occur including increased bromsulphthalein (BSP) retention, and increases in serum bilirubin, aspartate aminotransferase (AST, SGOT) and alkaline phosphatase.

In males:

Prepubertal: Phallic enlargement and increased frequency or persistence of erections.

Postpubertal: Inhibition of testicular function, testicular atrophy and oligospermia, impotence, chronic priapism, epididymitis, and bladder irritability.

In females:

Clitoral enlargement, menstrual irregularities.

CNS: Habituation, excitation, insomnia, depression, and changes in libido.

Hematologic: Bleeding in patients on concomitant anticoagulant therapy.

Breast: Gynecomastia.

Larynx: Deepening of the voice in females.

Hair: Hirsutism and male pattern baldness in females.

Skin: Acne (especially in females and prepubertal males).

Skeletal: Premature closure of epiphyses in children (See **PRECAUTIONS: Pediatric use**).

Fluid and electrolytes: Edema, retention of sodium and electrolytes (sodium chloride, potassium, phosphate, calcium).

Metabolic/Endocrine: Decreased glucose tolerance (See **PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory tests**), increased creatinine excretion, increased serum levels of creatinine phosphokinase (CPK). Masculinization of the fetus. Inhibition of gonadotropin secretion.

OVERDOSAGE

No symptoms or signs associated with overdosage have been reported. It is possible that sodium and water retention may occur.

The oral LD₅₀ of oxandrolone in mice and dogs is greater than 5,000 mg/kg. No specific antidote is known, but gastric lavage may be used.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Therapy with anabolic steroids is adjunctive to and not a replacement for conventional therapy. The duration of therapy with Oxandrin (oxandrolone) will depend on the response of the patient and the possible appearance of adverse reactions. Therapy should be intermittent.

Adults: The usual adult dosage of Oxandrin is one 2.5-mg tablet 2 to 4 times daily. However, the response of individuals to anabolic steroids varies, and a daily dosage of as little as 2.5 mg or as much as 20 mg may be required to achieve the desired response. A course of therapy of 2 to 4 weeks is usually adequate. This may be repeated intermittently as indicated.

Children: For children the total daily dosage of Oxandrin is ≤ 0.1 mg per kilogram body weight or ≤ 0.045 mg per pound of body weight. This may be repeated intermittently as indicated.

HOW SUPPLIED

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OBITUARIES

ABC co-founder Audrey Doughty dies at 79

by Cynthia Laird

Audrey K. Doughty, who co-founded and was the first director of AIDS Benefits Counselors (now Positive Resource Center) in the late 1980s, died on March 20. She was 79.

Born in 1920, Ms. Doughty had lived in Mill Valley for the past 48 years, and her life was rich in people and experiences. Entering Stanford University at 16, she graduated in 1941 and traveled to Europe with her father, a naval attaché. In Berlin, she witnessed the period of Adolf Hitler's rise to power, Kristallnacht, and the growing persecution of the Jews. Later in Honolulu, she witnessed the attack on Pearl Harbor. Following her marriage, she traveled to China in 1946 and in 1948, as a part of the Roger D. Lapham peacekeeping team, rode horseback into the hills of eastern China to help inform Mao's isolated guerrilla forces that they had won the war. She received a Phelan Award for an autobiographical novel about those adventures.

"Audrey was a remarkable out lesbian who devoted her life to social services and helping others," said San Francisco resident Gary Virginia, who's involved with Positive Resource Center. Virginia said that Ms. Doughty and her long-time partner, Zoe Borkowski, were "instrumental in the success of AIDS Benefits Counselors and its continued growth through the years."

"They never wavered in their strong support of ABC/Positive Resource Center and were truly committed to building strong programs for — and ensuring access to — women, minorities, and underserved people," Virginia said.

Ms. Doughty's writing career included work for the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, International News Service, Associated Press-



Audrey Doughty

Shanghai, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the Office of War Information, the *Mill Valley Record*, and extensive free-lance work. In the 1960s, she was public relations director for the Calaveras County Frog Jump, Welton Becket and Associates, the United Way, and the YMCA. In the 1970s, Ms. Doughty was the program director for the YWCA, and for 10 years, served as the executive director of the International Institute of San Francisco where she developed the first mental health services for refugees, resettled the first Cambodians in the U.S., and initiated Hispanic, Filipino, and Southeast Asian self-help programs. She retired in 1983.

In 1988, Ms. Doughty co-founded and was the first director of AIDS Benefits Counselors, an organization that provides benefits counseling to people living with HIV/AIDS. The agency merged with Positive Resource Center in 1996 and took that name last year. She was also director of the AIDS Indigent Services.

In the 1990s, Ms. Doughty developed a pregnancy prevention program with CAHEED, an organization in San Francisco's Bayview-Hunters Point area, consulted with the Marin Community Foundation on immigrants and refugees, and wrote projects for

Vince Herrman

January 9, 1946 — March 20, 2000



On March 30, 2000 my dearest friend left this world after a long and courageous battle with AIDS and Hepatitis C. Vince Herrman is survived by his sister Mary Moore of Laguna Hills and brothers Frank and Jerry Herrman of San Diego. He is also survived by many friends including Tim Meyers, Adrian and Steve. Goodbye, my friend. Your butchie will never forget you.

Michael James Krawezuk



The loving family and dear friends of Michael wish to bid him farewell as he is embraced by the love of God who has called him home. Michael passed away on March 11, 2000 at the young age of 52 after a valiant and brave battle with complications of AIDS and cancer. He was born January 2, 1948 in Queens, New York, and is survived by his angel of a mother Violet, his brother Robert, and former lover and lifetime companion/friend Jim Unroe.

the Chinatown YMCA and the Performing Arts Workshop. She also completed a book on genealogical research.

Ms. Doughty is survived by her companion of 28 years, Zoe Borkowski; her son John Doughty, his wife Lisa, and grandchildren Lindsay and Brandon of Davis, CA; and another son, Petty Officer Ethan Doughty, stationed at the Diego Garcia Naval Base. Ms. Doughty was preceded in death by a third son, Christian Jacobson Wood Doughty, whose widow, Judy, lives in Seattle.

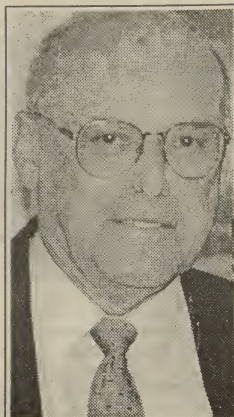
There will be a memorial party on Sunday, April 30 from 4-6 p.m. at the Alta Mira Hotel in Sausalito. Contributions may be made to the Positive Resource Center, 973 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94103; CAHEED, 1331 Evans Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94124; the Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C.; the Marin Mammal

Educated at New York City College and the University of Hawaii, Michael studied and quickly excelled in the art and science of horticulture. In addition he established a reputation of success and respect as manager of the Old Ram Rod Bar on Folsom; the Annex Lodge and Restaurant in Guerneville; and Lucas Wharf in Bodega Bay.

Mostly, Michael will be held in the sacred places of the hearts and memories of all those who love him and have been honored to share his life. We bless his life, his memory, and his journey.

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization — and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste. If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death. Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.



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Hector Caceres
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Elizabeth Kaiser dies

by Cynthia Laird

Elizabeth Farrel Kaiser passed away in the comfort and serenity of her home in Port Costa, California on March 30 after a long and valiant struggle with breast cancer. Her devoted lover, Dr. Margaret E. Poscher, was by her side.

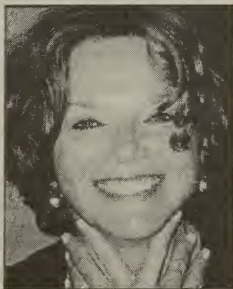
After a self-imposed hiatus in their romantic relationship of 22 years, during which time Ms. Kaiser devoted herself to caring for her invalid mother and raising her only child, Atom, she and Dr. Poscher were reunited. They toured Europe on an extended honeymoon where, hand-in-hand with her lover, Ms. Kaiser broke Italian men's hearts from Venice to Capri. They returned home to set up housekeeping in an historic Julia Morgan structure in the secluded village of Port Costa.

Besides being a devoted lover, mother, and daughter, Ms. Kaiser was a voracious reader and a glamorous aficionado of fine art and precious jewelry. She was unassuming in all her perfection, preferring to uncover a Bulgari treasure at a consignment shop rather than purchasing one on Post Street.

Besides her lover, Ms. Kaiser is survived by her son, Atom Kaiser of Ferndale, Michigan; her beloved mother, Grace Hackett; sisters Ivy Glynn, Janis Wells, Janet Katanick, and Susan Linn; brother Darrel Hackett; nieces and nephews Anna and Rocky Grinvalds, Willie Katanick, Melissa and Sasha Hackett, and Charlotte Linn.

While she is deeply missed, her imprint is indelibly etched in the hearts and minds of all her friends and family.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, April 30 at 1 p.m.



Elizabeth Kaiser

at St. Patrick's Mission in Port Costa. A reception will follow at Dr. Poscher's home in Port Costa. For more information, call (415) 255-0404, ext. 10.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, P.O. Box 650309, Dallas, Texas, 75265-0309. ▼

Middlin' gay guys meet this Sunday

by Terry Beswick

Most of the 75 gay and bisexual men who attended a recent workshop for guys "who consider themselves to be at midlife" were over the age of 45, according to Regan Chapman,

director of the Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group in San Francisco.

This Sunday, April 16, the second four-hour workshop, beginning at 1 p.m., will provide an opportunity for men to reflect on "issues of personal power, isolation, and visibility."

Attendance of both HIV-negative and -positive men is encouraged. ▼

The free workshop takes place at Ellard Hall, 100 Diamond near 18th Street. For more information, call 863-1581.

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Lycra virgin

by Jim Provenzano

You know Lou. Lou lounges outside your apartment/deli/loading dock, smoking a Cancer Lite, stuffing his belly into the relaxed-fit waistband of his Fila sweatpants, adjusting his Niners cap.

The baseball cap. The sneaker. The jock strap. The sports bra. Does donning them make you feel athletic?

Do you ooze blue sweat?

Do you Just Do It? Or do you Just Buy It?

We all know the sad reality. Most people's association with sports is consumerist at best. Phys Ed courses are in decline. We are the fattest nation on the planet, and at the same time, sportswear is a gazillion dollar a year industry.

Goodness knows my grape purple Team SF jacket and matching grape purple shorts have proved less than durable in the fashionable department. I admit I haven't worn them since Amsterdam, and even then they proved embarrassing, marking us as foreign tourists, tribal outsiders, or perhaps sales representatives from Kool-Aid.

But that's part of what team uniforms are about; occasionally tacky tribalism, clustered color codes.

Who was among the most fashionable at the last Gay Games? Vancouver, with their simple shirts and discreet patterning. Also France, just because they're French. Italy, with their absurd backwards text logo, and South Africa, with a blazing zebra pattern, were all nominees for Best Dressed.

Also, their uniforms didn't

make noise when you walked. I think that's the main thing that prevents me from wearing my L.C. (last century) Team SF uniform; that swishing sound, plus that awful webbing on the inside of the shorts that reminded me of boxer bathing trunks I had to wear in teenhood before Speedos became fashionable.

Thank the gods for Speedo. But what are one's public

sweatwear options, if glaring stripes and mesh sleeveless tees clash with your not-buff bod? What about official Gay Sports wear? Did you know that the term "gaysports" has been trademarked and copyrighted? Did you know there's a domain name for the act of homos going to the gym? Have you ego-

surfing to find the home page of your doppelganger on the other side of the planet?

Sportswear. Athletic gear. String tee muscle shirts retailing at \$35. Branded target-marketed gay community product tie-ins.

We're beyond irony by now, folks.

To the disappointment of few, and the relief of many, I refuse to wear Spandex in public. I know it's more efficient whilst cycling, but something about showing off my tush, albeit tights-coated, in broad daylight amid heavy commuter traffic, just doesn't have an appeal. On a stage for \$14 at Zellerbach Auditorium? Fine.

How much should you show? With San Francisco weather heading into chilly springtime fog bank climates, matching optional outerwear is a must. Layers.

Taken to teen extremes, it seems shorts have to go below the ankle for kids to wear them, their

body shame is so tangible.

But with Aussie lifeguards hiking even their skimpy Speedos up to G-string proportions, what do you want to wear down under? An aboriginal loincloth?

While Coco Chanel said, "Glamour should make one convulse," and David Bowie's response to fashion was a mere, "Beep! Beep!" you can have more to say in how and what LGBT athletes wear on their trek down under to Sydney for Gay Games VI, which takes place in early November 2002.

On Thursday, April 27, the new Uniform Committee is meeting to begin the process of uniform selection for the upcoming Gay Games. There are a lot of options in selecting this new uniform, and all of the clubs and teams will have input on its design and selection.



Am I not your target market?

"We're starting the process far in advance so that we can have the best looking and the most functional uniform possible," said Anne Ludwig of Team SF. "One of our major goals is to select a team uniform that would also allow the different sports to coordinate their club and/or team uniforms

with it. So if you're a runner, your running shorts and singlet would coordinate

with the Team SF warm-up jacket and pants. If you're a softball player, regardless of team colors, you can try to coordinate with the Team SF uniform. The bowlers' shirts could coordinate with Team SF. The swimmers' Speedos could match the color selection.

"We are asking that each sports group send one representative to this meeting," said Ludwig, ignoring the truth that a room of 10 queens gives birth to 30 opinions.

However, it is important that the jocks from the home of Gay Games at least look somewhat stylish. "If the designated representative cannot make it, please appoint

next page ►

Firing

◀ page 5

from discrimination based on sexual orientation, the new amendment championed through the Legislature by Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa (D-Los Angeles) put "sexual orientation" on the same level as race, gender, and other classes protected under the FEHA that went into effect this year.

This matters to people like Fike, Kors said, because the new law allows plaintiffs to sue for attorney fees, along with other reparations, making it easier for people of any economic status to sue if they believe they have a strong case.

"For the first time, the gay and lesbian community is being treated equally to the many other minority communities who have had this type of protection," Kors said.

Fike had worked for eight

years for a company that merged in 1998 with Kentucky-based BICCGeneral. A senior vice president at the time of the merger, he continued working out of his San Francisco home with the new title of western regional manager for BICCG, which is, Kors noted, the largest supplier of their product to Home Depot.

Before the merger with BICCG, Fike had been recognized as "Salesman of the Year" by his employer.

After the merger, relations between Fike and his supervisor, Ronald Trichtett, were going fine, according to the suit, until Trichtett asked Fike whether he was married. Kors said it was when Fike replied that he was gay and had a domestic partner that the salesman began noting that things began to change.

After that disclosure, Trichtett would not even return phone calls

from Fike, the suit claims, and Fike began noticing other slights from management as well as co-workers.

The final straw for him came prior to a September 1999 company conference in Hawaii, when other employees of the same rank as Trichtett were invited to bring their wives - and even girlfriends - along to the conference.

Fike was not given the option of bringing his domestic partner.

When Fike sent an e-mail to management complaining of this and other slights, within days he got his response from BICCGGeneral management. BICCG said it was firing Fike, according to Kors, because they were "downsizing."

Kors said that BICCG has about a month to respond to the suit, which seeks damages for past and future lost wages, emotional distress, punitive damages, and of course, the aforementioned attorney's fees and costs. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

LBT health forum

◀ page 20

lieve is limited in its possibilities. They certainly learned otherwise at the forum's afternoon breakout sessions designed to target specific misinformation.

In these sessions, doctors learned that they rarely even consider lesbians having anal sex or oral-anal contact, a behavior that opens the door to infections such

as hepatitis A and other sexually transmitted diseases. SM sex is also rarely considered as typical lesbian behavior, so many doctors aren't even asking women if they have shared whips or engaged in blood play, the most direct route to infections such as HIV. Where patients need to be willing to discuss their behaviors, doctors need to know how to ask the right questions.

Once doctors are confident they know the sexual behavior of their clients, however, it's time for

them to start asking about less obvious behavior. Doctors should be aware, for instance, that lesbians who only sleep with women have a tendency not to keep track of the beginnings and endings of their menstrual cycles. Without a fear of pregnancy, the average lesbian hardly notices if she is "late," when in fact an irregular period could signify a host of medical problems, from stress and hormone deficiency, to thyroid and cervical disease.

Finally, doctors need to document their findings when it comes to their LBT women patients. A lack of research on lesbians had led to a vicious cycle where there is little information available to providers, and the lack of information makes research funding difficult. But if it starts at a local level, we can build our own history of medical patterns in the LBT women's community.

These messages and more were emphasized at the forum to those who most needed to hear it, the nation's average health providers. As one of the goals of the forum stated, doctors who learned something last Friday will most likely bring that knowledge back to their communities. This, plus the adoption of the "Standards of Care" document, unveiled at the forum's closing ceremonies, are part of the first steps to make healthcare accessible and accurate when it comes to LBT women.

The San Francisco Health Commission is scheduled to vote on the standards of care document at a meeting this month. The document will ensure that all health care institutions, facilities, and programs understand the steps required to provide quality healthcare services for LGBT clients. ▼

Sports Complex

◀ previous page

someone else to attend," Ludwig said. "We want to help set the groundwork for our 'new look.'"

Among the sartorial options up for discussion are jacket style, zipper closure, color, hood, elastic or drawing wrist bands, and the ever-thorny debate: zipper or Velcro pockets?

Fortunately, the new logo was already selected at the recent general membership meeting in March. Terri Hill of the Baylands FrontRunners was the design winner. Look for the logo on jackets, hats, shirts, stickers, and mugs at a promotional event near you.

Input from all teams in all sports is desired, though, for the remaining fashion think tank. The goal is a decision on colors, style, and a sense of uniformity be-

tween all sports.

Team SF will be having discussions, a fashion show in October (guest list, Sweetiel), and other events to decide on the "look." All I can say is, breathable non-audible fabric, please.

Please, sports folks. Offer your input. The last time fashion was decided upon by a committee, the results were the Mao jacket.

Bring ideas, sketches, fabric swatches, and your favorite lines from *Funny Face* to the April 27 meeting, 7 p.m. at 621 24th Avenue (cross street is Anza) For further directions, call (415) 668-3771. Food and beverages will be provided. ▼

For more info, visit the Team SF Web site at <http://www.sirius.com/~teamsf/> or e-mail Anne Ludwig at allatandem@aol.com.

Survive AIDS

◀ page 22

dividual deficits far outnumber studies that attempt to understand meaning and subjective experience. At times even this line of research conspires with deficit models by treating men's meaningful explanations as instances of "self-justification."

To the contrary, there seems to be a "striking congruence" and meaningful relationship between two seemingly unrelated issues: what it's like to be a Latino gay/bisexual man, and what is the most difficult aspect of practicing safe sex! Participation in Latino communities and family life reinforces important factors and values that strongly compete with enacting safer sex intentions. These situations can lead on the one hand to denial or on the other hand to feelings of isolation and loneliness that feed the need to take risks to obtain closeness or to prove "masculinity."

These problems complicate one's ability to maintain safe behavior even with the best of intentions, and they have parallels in the African American community and others where HIV incidence is rising. In fact Diaz states that "even though this psycho-cultural model of risk is being developed in the context of data from Latino gay/bisexual men in the U.S., it is my belief that the model can be adapted and applied to any group or individuals exhibiting discrepancies between personal intentions and actual behavior."

Diaz's model explains how the breakdown of intentions is experienced as meaningful behavior in its context, and not necessarily as "risk-taking." He acknowledges that his findings are best used to explain unsafe behavior that happens in the presence of intentions and commitments to be safe; it does not cover those individuals who take calculated risks with full awareness of the possible negative consequences.

In order to become truly collaborative and participatory, prevention programs must tune in to the cultural meaning, rather than only

personal deficiencies or pathologies, of unsafe sexual behavior among gay men. Only then can a genuine collaborative relationship between prevention professionals and clients at risk be possible. "As prevention programs attempt to be less didactic and authoritarian and become more collaborative and participatory in nature, there is an urgent need to honor the subjective experiences of gay men."

Prevention practitioners and researchers can benefit enormously by looking deeper into ideologies and cultural beliefs that give meaning to (so-called) risky sexual behavior. Furthermore, it is important to articulate these ideologies and implicit theories of risk, as a way of challenging theories of individual fault, and to develop more finely tuned models of prevention that respect the subjective experience and cultural perspectives of those who are most at risk.

As expected, the analysis revealed not simply a list of isolated "reasons," but rather well-organized and culturally meaningful ideologies that are drawn upon and used by men to interpret, explain, and give meaning to the occurrence of HIV risk in their own and their friends' sexual lives. The ideologies presented should not be interpreted simplistically as "causes" for unprotected sex; rather, they are windows offering views of socially-shared meanings that can help us understand the subjective experience of those who struggle with safer sex in the Latino gay community. They are points of departure to build a genuine collaborative bridge between prevention practices and those who are at risk for HIV infection in this vulnerable community.

As Diaz rightly concludes, "We have to face the facts about the social shape of the epidemic. It is a health disaster shaped by racism, poverty, homophobia, and gender discrimination, to name a few. Prevention programs cannot avoid the imminent task of working for justice and against social oppression because, ultimately, these are the most basic sources of fatalism, helplessness, and risk." ▼

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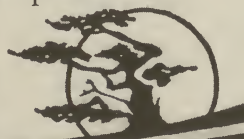
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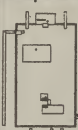
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-Ingrid Duran



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-Duane Cramer



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SHE LOVES ME!"
-Anthony Planck



"BECAUSE WE CAN
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JUST BECAUSE OF
WHO WE LOVE."
-Tanya Smith



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Millennium March on Washington

THE MARCH

Line-up begins at 8am at the Washington Monument (Constitution & 15th); The March begins at 10am, ending at the National Mall. There is no cost - please be sure to contact us at the information below to register for the march if you plan to march in a large group!

THE RALLY

Sun., 12pm-6pm, at the National Mall. Be a part of one of the largest civil rights rallies in history. Hundreds of thousands of people from the GLBT and allied communities will gather on the National Mall for a rally that will bring together all aspects of the GLBT community as we organize and inspire each other to continue our fight for equality.

THE FESTIVAL

Sat., 11am-7pm, dancing 8pm-midnight; and Sun., 11am-8pm. Pennsylvania Ave., NW between 3rd and 9th Sts., Donation: \$5.00. World's largest GLBT festival and dances. Info: 202.776.0100 or www.millennium-productions.net/mmow.

THE DINNER

Opening Night Gala Dinner, International Trade Center Main Rotunda, 6:30-10:30pm. Co-chaired by Donna Red Wing and Nicole Murray Ramirez, this event features some of the biggest names in the GLBT movement. For tickets call Montage Events at 1.800.792.5919 or go to www.montageevents.com.

For a complete listing of events occurring during the Millennium March on Washington weekend, to register to march as a group, or to volunteer, go to www.mmow.org or call 202.467.8100.

'Elian: The Miniseries' climaxes
Can he possibly fondle one more cute
little animal? The *Lavender Tube* reports
page 45

Porn pioneer
Disturbing 'Sex: The
Annabel Chong Story'
page 37



Perpetual portraits
Thomasina DeMaio paints
Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence
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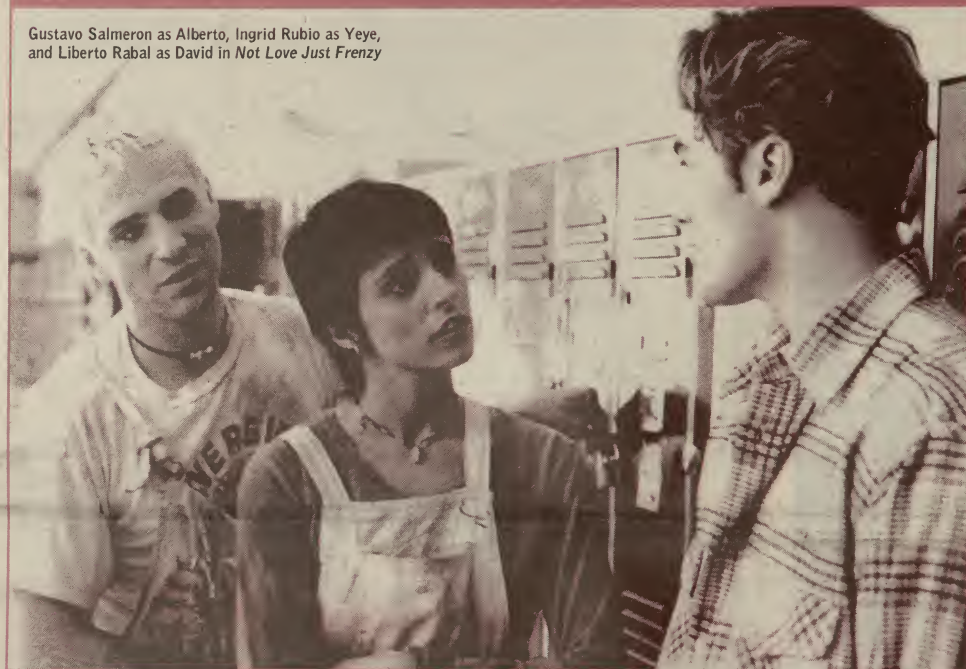
Vol. 30 • No. 15 • 13 April 2000

DISCO FEVER

Spain's STARTLINGLY ORIGINAL 'NOT LOVE JUST FRENZY'

by Robert Julian

Gustavo Salmeron as Alberto, Ingrid Rubio as Yeye, and Liberto Rabal as David in *Not Love Just Frenzy*



I don't know why it took four years for the 1996 Spanish film *Not Love Just Frenzy* to arrive in the United States, but it blows into the Lumiere tomorrow, smelling of steamy sex and drug-induced lost weekends. This is not a "gay film," although it is riddled with gay characters, drag queens, and bisexuality. Instead, it is a film about twentysomething nightlife, all-night parties, and chance sexual encounters that the film's lead characters insist on mistaking for love. *Not Love Just Frenzy* zeroes in on the boites and bedrooms of party-hearty Madrid, but the *mise en scène* is so universal, the story could take place in any urban metropolis, at any time after 1970.

Frenzy revolves around three female roommates, Monica (Cayetana Guillen Cuervo), Yeye (Ingrid Rubio), and Maria (Beatriz Santiago). Monica runs a video/disco bar while trying to carve out a career as an actress, although cocaine and wild sex seem to be her primary pursuits. Yeye is trying to recover from her affair with a male prostitute, Max, when Monica seduces him and invites him to become their fourth roommate. Yeye consoles herself with her gay best friend, Alberto (Gustavo Salmeron), but Alberto is so obsessed by his one night stand with a married man that he barely notices Yeye's problems.

Max, the human sex machine, is running from the cops and trying to get paid by his lesbian pimp, Cristina (Bibi Andersen). The

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PSYCHO KILLER

BOOK TO FILM: 'AMERICAN PSYCHO'

by David Lamble

Ret Easton Ellis is hiding in plain sight. The author of *American Psycho*, a dark satire on the lurid bloody fantasies of an '80s stock trader, is sitting on a standard-issue if up-scale luxury hotel sofa, positioned with his back to the lobby and warmed by a steady fake fire. Approaching Ellis, I'm sweating, not only because of his high visibility in pop culture, but because I've decided to wear a 100% cashmere sweater — to get in a little *mano a mano* brand-name war with the champ. The hotel lobby is comfortable, if a bit spartan for a writer whose fiction reads like a Baedeker to Reagan-era consumerism.

Ellis wrote the novel on the eve of the Gulf War, thinking that educated readers would get the joke — after all, he prefaced it with telling quotes from Dostoevsky, the Talking Heads and Miss Manners — get it? Hello! In fact, a tip-off that his protagonist, Patrick Bateman, was seen by his creator as a really bad boy who should never be left alone with high-priced hookers and stainless steel comes in the origins of the book's title. "I knew I was writing this book about a serial killer, and I really didn't have a title for it yet. It was the summer of '90, and I was at a multiplex theatre. *Psycho III* was playing, along with a film called *American Anthem*. They couldn't fit both those titles on the marquee, so it just said *American and Psycho*. It hit me immediately — that's the title for this book,

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Christian Bale as
Patrick Bateman
in *American Psycho*



Kerry Hayes

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by Roberto Friedman
and a Painted Pony

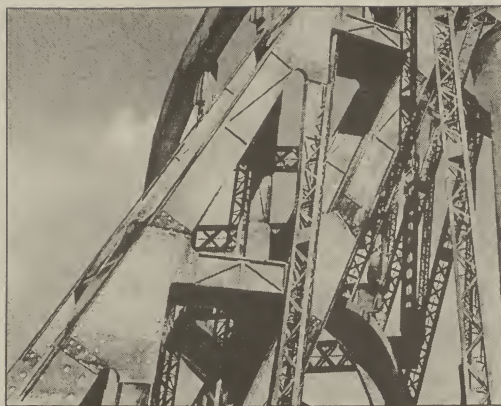
When news leaked out last week that Britain's bonny Prince William, 17, gave a rousing rendition of *The Village People's* timeless ditty "YMCA" in a karaoke bar in the north of England, inveterate palace-watchers can hardly have been surprised. Eccentricity runs deep in the House of Windsor — never underestimate that little factor called inbreeding. And let's not forget that William's uncle, bonny Prince Edward, was once designated — okay, by *Out There* — Prince Most Likely To Become Queen.

But we aren't here to speculate about royalty. Let's move on to the commoners, shall we, some of them less common than others.

"Isn't this a great place for a circuit party?" exclaimed glamorous globe-trotting press agent David Perry last week at Zeum, the young person's art & technology center in Yerba Buena Gardens. The occasion was not, alas, a circuit party, but a reception for the board of the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association, which is set to have their 10th annual convention in our little cowtown this fall. They're quite jazzed about it.

Indeed, the facilities at Yerba Buena seem ready-made for the NLGJA convention in September: disco at Zeum (balconies above the would-be party space are just perfect for gyrating go-go boys — or royal pronouncements); lesbian bowling at the bowling alley; and for the boys, Brian Boitanoesque figure-skating turns at the ice rink. Those cute and frisky journalists are going to be busy.

The NLGJAers were in a feisty mood, announcing a \$100K grant from the Ford Foundation, and confirming featured speakers for their confab ABC News anchor Peter Jennings, CBS News anchor Dan Rather, Salon.com editor David Talbot and California State Assembly member Sheila Kuehl, the first out gay or lesbian elected to the California Legislature. OK, so we're impressed. And it was fun to be at a press gathering at which pesky members of



Monument to the Third International, by Vladimir E. Tatlin, 1919

the SF media were in the minority! Come to think of it, this was the first glam movers-and-shakers party we've been to in a long while which did not include the bestowal of some gratuitous proclamation by a Supervisor or Da Mayor! Must be a temporary lull in the election cycle.

Gay male a cappella group *From Top To Bottom* serenaded the crowd with "Time After Time," and the spirit of

Cyndi Lauper wafted through the room. Half of the B.A.R. editorial staff (3 of us), after a few visits to the open bar, played hooky from the party for a spell in order to take our free rides on the Yerba Buena carousel. And yes, we

thanked our lucky stars there were no paparazzi stalking us, to capture us misbehaving like the children we are on rides. We know, we know: isn't SF enough of a merry-go-round anyway?

Hey, it's been a hands-on kinda week at the old *Out There* desk. We tore ourselves away from our duties to enjoy a complimentary Swedish massage at the new day spa *Re: fresh* on Post St. Although we passed up the detoxifying seaweed wrap and the Hawaiian salt glow, we did enjoy our lux rub-down from our very able masseur, Charlie; our revivifying steam; and a few quiet moments with our destressing tea in the "relaxation area." Take a deep breath along with *Out There*, and let it go.

Built at last

Meanwhile, it's good to know that in the Digital Age, buildings don't actually have to be built to be fully experienced. A current exhibit at the Logan Galleries of the California College of Arts and Crafts, *Unbuilt Monuments*, presents six famous examples of never-constructed architecture, newly imagined through the wonderful world of computer graphics.

We remember several of these projects from Art History, like Vladimir E. Tatlin's *Monument to the Third International*, here stunningly realized in MIT architecture professor Takehiko Nagakura and students' astonishing work. They have created hyperrealistic tours through the buildings' spaces, thanks to computer simulation, and projected them on the video screen. The Tatlin monument, conceived in 1919, looms over St. Petersburg like a Futurist dream of the Eiffel Tower. Unbuilt works by master architects are likewise portrayed — a glamorous, spare, but lux *Mies van der Rohe* house (1930) and two projects by *Le Corbusier* (1931 and '70) are among the realizations. Architecture buffs should definitely not stay away; the show is on display through May 13 at CCAC, 1111 8th St. Call 551-9210.

King Leer

Press releases we never finished reading dept.: "With a nursing degree and more than 500 movies to her credit, adult film star *Nina Hartley* has taken on *William Shakespeare* with a twist on his romantic farce *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, in the Adam & Eve production of *A Midsummer Night's Cream*."

"We have a drug-induced lust scene with *Bottom*, and a kiss-and-make-up lovers' quarrel scene with *Oberon*," says Hartley, who portrays *Titania*, Queen of the Nymphs.

"Similar to *Shakespeare* in his day, the adult film industry has achieved widespread acceptance..." Willie the Shakes has put down his remote control and is now rolling in his grave. ▼



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QSF

Sealed with a kiss

An interview with Ute Lemper

by Gregg Shapiro

Anyone who thinks that they know singer Ute Lemper (who plays Davies Hall tonight, April 13) from what they heard her do over the course of her previous discs are in for a surprise. On *Punishing Kiss* (Decca), Lemper turns her attention to the work of modern-day musical geniuses such as Tom Waits, Elvis Costello, Nick Cave, Philip Glass and The Divine Comedy. Lemper was born to sing these songs, as you can hear on Cave's "Little Water Song," Waits's "Purple Avenue," The Divine Comedy's "The Case Continues" and "Split," Costello's "Couldn't You Keep That To Yourself," and Glass' "Streets Of Berlin," originally sung by Mick Jagger in the movie *Bent*.

Gregg Shapiro: You say in the liner notes for *Punishing Kiss* that you came up against resistance from your classical record company for doing contemporary arrangements of material. But there seems to be some slow but steady crossover occurring, with you and, for example, Andrea Bocelli. How do you see your role in the meeting of these two worlds?

Ute Lemper: That's really a category which has been put upon us by the market. I'm different from Bocelli. Bocelli is an opera singer who sings popular songs. What I've done, so far, is occupy a very specific niche of European theater songs — that is, the songs from the Weimar Republic, the political satire and theater music of Brecht and Weill, and the French chanson of the '50s and '60s. And I really do stay in that European theater context. If people call that crossover ... I think that at the time it was created, it was popular music. *The Threepenny Opera* was like something popular, actually. They called it the "pop music" of the '20s. Otherwise, it's a specific theatrical performance. With this album, I think I do keep the integrity of where I come from, but all the elements that we use are contemporary, inspired by rock, pop or jazz music.

How do you think your more traditional fans will react to *Punishing Kiss*?

I hope they react great. As I said, I did not compromise myself. Maybe some of those who come from the more classical corner won't like it, for whom I am borderline anyway, that might be too far out there in the rock or pop world. On the other hand, that's okay. It's all a question of taste.

This album is a very natural evolution for me. All of these guys



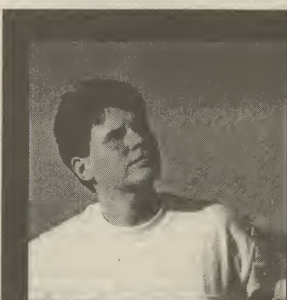
Ute Lemper: "I did not compromise myself."

[the composers] are inspired by this period, by the Weimar Republic, the songs and the way they were created. Songs about storytelling. Storytelling about people on the edge, about loners, losers, drunks, addicts. About whores and sailors and harbors and outcasts from society. About people outside of the norm. There is a social, political context of characters. I think that Nick Cave, [Elvis] Costello, and even more, Tom Waits and The Divine Comedy are like contemporary cabaret, and are very inspired by that. The album stays very faithful to my theatrical style, except that my approach is a little rougher than I would approach something on a more classical album. I also think it's straight from the guts.

The duets with Neil Hannon, on the songs "Tango Ballad" and "Split," sound wonderful. Did you approach Tom Waits about doing a duet with him on either of his two songs that you covered?

Oh, I would love to. But I don't think he has time for that. I would love to go for another album and

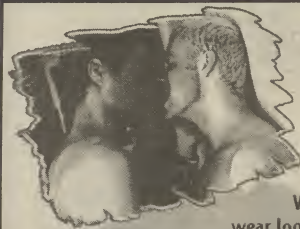
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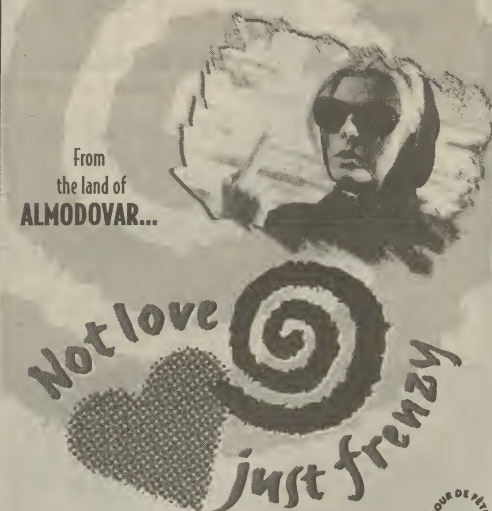


"The sexy new Spanish film *"NOT LOVE, JUST FRENZY"* should come with a special rating - H for Hot or HWC for Handle With Care.

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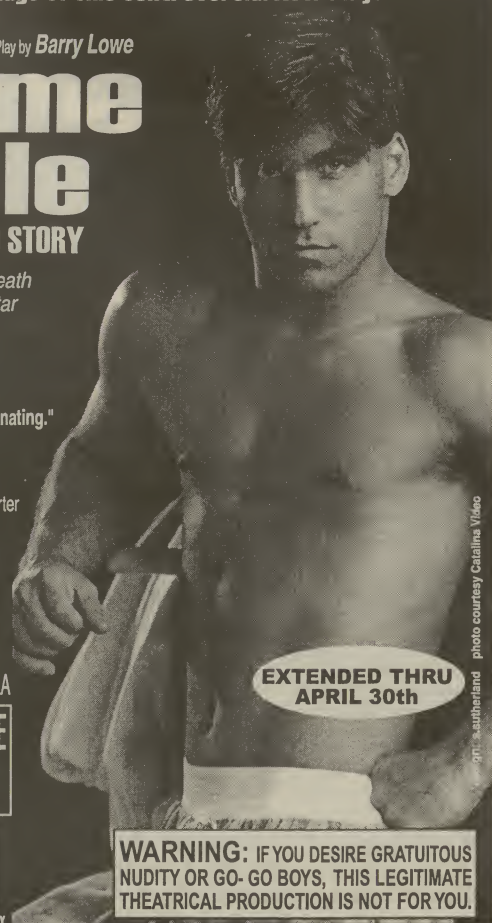
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Powder puffs

'The Scarlet Pimpernel' at the Orpheum

by Richard Dodds

It's the terror of the little slip of paper. Upon opening a *Playbill* a year ago at the Minksoff Theatre in New York, out fluttered a white scrap that told us that an understudy would be playing the title character in *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. While Douglas Sills had generated a sizable following for his performance, surely there were pleasures to be had even in his absence. Precious few, as it turned out.

What's remarkable about finally seeing Sills in his career-making role, thanks to the touring production of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* at the Orpheum Theatre, is how this single performance has transformed an utterly forgettable musical into an unexpected guilty pleasure. In this era of humorless mega-musicals and anti-melodic art songs, a good old-fashioned piece of performance-driven fluff is most welcome.

That *The Scarlet Pimpernel* is still alive three years after its Broadway debut is a drama in itself. Based on the classic adventure tale by Baroness Orczy, the musical opened to withering reviews but managed to hold on, thanks to composer Frank (*Jekyll & Hyde*) Wildhorn's following and the strength of Sills's performance. While the show was still running, new producers bought the production, recast two of the three leads, hired a new director,



'An unexpected guilty pleasure': a scene from *The Scarlet Pimpernel*

and reworked the material from top to bottom without ever skipping a performance. When critics returned in 1998, their impressions had considerably improved.

Some of the new praise was probably provoked just by the contrast, for those returning, to what they had seen before. Most audiences, of course, won't benefit from such a comparative mood elevator. What you see is all you get, but it's enough if your expect-

tations are properly unadorned, and if Sills is there to drive this old-fashioned vehicle.

Sills plays Sir Percy, an English bon vivant who gains a social conscience when a friend is executed in Paris during the witchhunts that followed the French Revolution. Suspecting that even his new bride may be a French spy, he and his comrades disguise themselves as flamboyant fops who can trav-

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Corseted

ACT's 'The House of Mirth'

by Richard Dodds

There are two distinct audiences for *The House of Mirth*, but it's unlikely that either will find great rewards in its stage incarnation at ACT.

The first group are those who have read Edith Wharton's novel, and who will most probably find this new stage adaptation missing the essence of what makes it great. The second group are those who are coming to the story for the first time, and who are likely to be bemused by this weak-tea retelling of the tale of Miss Lily Bart.

But both groups can be expected to join together in the mild boredom that settles over the Geary Theater like the gauzy material that defines the set. You might call this cotillion theater, which is like an episode of *Masterpiece Theater*, but without the encouraging distractions of an opulently realistic setting. Matters do improve in the second act, when the accumulating social calamities that befall its heroine provide a dramatic edge the first act lacks.

The strength of Wharton's novel isn't so much in its dialogue or even its plot, as it is in the wry and wicked observations of privileged society that the author provides in her narrative. But in director Giles Havergal's stage adaptation, the rich and layered narration has been largely stripped away, leaving a story that now seems mundane indeed.

For one for whom the book is a recent experience, there were oc-



Roxanne Raja as Lily Bart

casional pleasures at seeing how Wharton's vivid characters were rendered in the flesh. But Havergal's direction, while fluidly handling the multiple scene segues, stoops to some hackneyed devices, especially in a silly hallucinatory scene. Few if any of the performances can be called top-flight, though several do make more fluid impressions than most.

Perhaps most evocative, if hammy, is Troy West's performance as the unashamedly social-climbing Simon Rosedale. He is courting Lily Bart in hopes that her status among society's elite will rub off on him, but despite her perilous financial condition, she ruins her marital chances with him and a series of other wealthy suitors.

The tragedy of Lily Bart, trapped

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The child defiled

'Sex: The Annabel Chong Story'

by Gary Morris

In a demimonde as duplicitous as the porn world, it shouldn't be too surprising to find that some of its players lead double lives. The image of the princess-whore is a common one in the culture (think *Belle de Jour*), and the Internet abounds with websites by lap dancers and porn stars who are also artists or academics. In the latter category falls Annabel Chong, pioneer of the 251-man gangbang, who is really Grace Quek, a USC graduate who spends as much time ruminating on cultural and sexuality issues as she does getting laid on camera. Quek/Chong is the subject of Gough Lewis's intense, disturbing documentary, *Sex: The Annabel Chong Story*. As in many such split identities, the line between the two gets blurry indeed. At one point she says, "I don't even know who Annabel Chong is."

In limning her story, Lewis takes the viewer into all the worlds that have touched her, for better or worse. These include the porn industry; her native Singapore, with its rigid, conservative culture; academia; and, most unsettling, a London subway where she was gang-raped at age 21.

Her porn titles — *Depraved Fantasies 3*, *More Dirty Debutantes #37* — are typical of the genre, with one exception, her ground-breaking *World's Biggest Gang Bang I*, in which she has sex with 251 guys, an event presided over by pornmeisters John Bowen and Ron Jeremy. The industry's attraction to Quek is clear. She's very pretty, naive-looking, agreeable, a kind of child bride, and the lure of defiling this sweet image is the driving force. Her attraction to porn, and extreme porn at that, is discussed at length by herself and others. A classmate says she did it because she was irritated by the "reverse patriarchy" of a "feminist theory class" that she felt was stifling female sexuality. Quek says she wants "to shake people up from all these stereotypes of women as sex objects," to "be a stud." She has a missionary's zeal, at least in her words: "I'm at the age where I think I can change something."

Body language

Cracks in this scenario emerge quickly. It's hard, for example, to reconcile her forced smiles and screams of passion after the 50th,



Grace Quek, aka porn star Annabel Chong

100th, or 250th guy with body language that says she's pretty much a psychological wreck. Quek's vaunted search for sexual liberation seems to be covering a search for community and family. Scenes of her sidling up to Ron Jeremy, John Bowen, and others in the porn industry as if they cared about her are undercut by interviews in which it's clear that she's been totally commodified in their minds. Bowen doesn't even pay her for the gangbang video that's supposedly the biggest bestseller in porn video history. Once her record of 251 guys is eclipsed, she's called "all washed up," and she ends up haggling with second-rate pornographers over a few hundred bucks.

"I'm willing to take the consequences of what I do," she says, referring to the risks — psychic and physical — involved in getting fucked by hundreds of men in the 10-hour shooting of *The World's Biggest Gang Bang*. What she doesn't know that the film reveals is that many of the men weren't even given an HIV test, in spite of assurances to the contrary. Quek's trusting nature is constantly pummeled, and her fantasy of the porn world as a loving community rather than a cutthroat business is also dashed. Outside the line of fat, aging geeks with ponytails who make up her gangbang lovers and directors, she's reviled. Other porn stars who make "erotica" write her off as "sleazy" and "bad for the industry." Some of the pain she feels is internalized, and in a creepy scene she cuts bloody stripes in her arm "to let the pain inside out."

Most problematic for Quek is

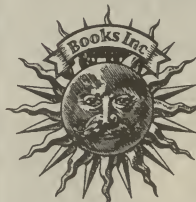
the discovery by family and friends of what the "good little girl" from Singapore who could write, draw, and play the piano is really up to. She has the strength of her convictions in telling a friend that she's "the biggest porn star in America," but the news echoes through the Singapore community and devastates her relationship with her mother. Her most wrenching moments are those with this good-natured, traditional woman, who's traumatized by the news when it comes from her hysterical daughter. This is where the gulf between her theorizing about sexual liberation and her desperate need for a loving family and community is at its widest.

The film is not entirely grim. There are sweet moments between Quek and her best friend, a drag queen named Alan. She's playful and seemingly at peace when they dress up in drag together and she describes how he helped her kick drugs. The simplicity of lunch in a Singapore food stall with her mother is another quiet moment of pleasure, far from the troublesome world of play for pay. Driving through London, she says, "Like every big city, it's got an undercurrent of sadness and loneliness and desperation to it" — an equally apt description of Annabel Chong. ▽

Sex: The Annabel Chong Story opens Friday, April 14.

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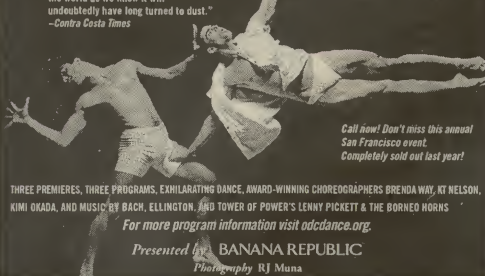
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American Psycho

◀ Arts cover

American Psycho.

To Ellis' chagrin, even his publisher, Simon & Schuster, didn't get the joke, taking the virtually unheard-of step of rejecting the final manuscript. It finally found a home at Vintage Books, where it began its life as a novel more fun to denounce than actually read.

Ellis, who up to this time had enjoyed his reputation as the "enfant terrible" of Brat Pack writers, was shocked and hurt. "Remember, I was a very young kid when I published that book. Now I think the reputation of the book is very different. Even if people don't like the book, at least they don't respond to it with a level of moral hysteria. I think if they don't like the book now, they don't like it for stylistic and aesthetic reasons."

Concerned Canadians

Ironically, the controversy surrounding *American Psycho* returned with a vengeance when producer Edward Pressman (*Wall Street*) and director Mary Harron (*I Shot Andy Warhol*) sought to film it, using Toronto as a low-budget stand-in for New York. A group called Canadians Concerned About Violence in Entertainment (C-CAVE) took issue with the book's supposed link to Canadian serial killer Paul Bernardo, and pressured many Toronto businesses (banks and restaurants vital to its look of posh '80s decadence) to withdraw previously issued shooting permits.

Earlier, the film had generated its own firestorm of publicity when ministudio Lions Gate pitched the project to megastar Leonardo DiCaprio. (Industry insiders have asserted that Lions Gate's main interest in shooting *American Psycho* was to gain a little Miramax-like clout, to move up the studio food chain to "major mini.") When Leo ultimately passed on a reported \$21 million deal to play the well-togged serial killer, Lions Gate gave the project back to Pressman/Harron and their first choice to play Patrick, the young British actor Christian Bale (*Velvet Goldmine*), trying to shake his typecasting as a cute Anglo boy playing a series of sexy fops in costume dramas (*Little Women*).

Ellis is a little bemused that DiCaprio and Bale would shoot it out to play a Yuppie Jack the Ripper. "I have to give credit to the actors, especially Christian Bale. I don't know how he did it, I don't know why he even wanted to do it. I don't know why Leonardo DiCaprio would want to do this role. You've got to be a psychotic, and you also have to give a comedic performance."

Ellis admits that he was probably naive to think that readers would accept without serious protest the first-person rantings of a very unreliable narrator who, if he is to be believed, has sliced and diced his way through Mayor Ed Koch's New York (with chap-



American Psycho author Bret Easton Ellis

ter headings such as "Tries to Cook and Eat Girl" or "Taking an Uzi to the Gym"). In some ways, *American Psycho* is a 400-page satirical riff on the theme "Yuppie Scum Must Die."

Men behaving badly

"*American Psycho* was based on how society was reconfiguring itself to the yuppie ethic, and how everything seemed to change because yuppies were so valued. I'm not talking just about business practices, but the culture in general — how books, film, theatre, art was reconfigured to yuppie taste. It was also a critique of male behavior, partly a critique of my lifestyle and partly a critique of my father, and how he made a lot of money and changed. It basically was about the abuse of the freedom that money brings you."

Ellis tried to give Patrick Bateman a taste for things so refined, so outlandish, so banal, that readers couldn't help but get the joke — violent scenes punctuated by fawningly detailed assessments of pop groups like Genesis or Huey Lewis and the News. Ellis admits that his narrative strategy was deliberately ambiguous, and that Harron's direction and screenplay (with Guinevere Turner) clarify the ambiguity so that filmgoers are given clues on how seriously to take the story.

The path to the movie version of *American Psycho* is strewn with rejected screenplays, including one by Ellis, but is he bitter about the results? "I wish I could be more of the bratty artiste and moan that 'Hollywood has ruined my book again.' I did think they screwed up my first novel, *Less Than Zero*, when it was filmed in 1987. I was expecting the same thing to happen, a total disaster. But I have to sheepishly admit that I like the movie, and I think they did a pretty good job."

The darkness of *American Psycho* was partly fueled by Ellis's anger towards his father, a very unhappy man who abused his family. "My father had some problems — I don't think he was

ready to be a family man. The generation he grew up in dictated that you go to school and get married very young, and you move into a house and you have three children, period. And I don't think my father really wanted to do that. I think he wanted a different life, but he conformed to societal pressure. In the end, he started drinking and was fairly abusive towards my sisters, my mother and me. When he left the house, when I was 16, he wound up making an enormous amount of money during the Reagan '80s, and he became even worse, much more unhappy. I do believe that what clicked in my fiction and has influenced *Less Than Zero* and *American Psycho*, the idea that this money might bring you some sort of freedom, but it doesn't necessarily bring you any form of happiness." He adds that his next novel "will contain a father who is not Ward Cleaver."

Ellis admits to having an odd kind of symbiotic relationship with another gay writer. The themes of *Less Than Zero* and *American Psycho* have paralleled issues addressed by Dennis Cooper in his novels of the gay sexual underground like *Closer* and *Frisk*. In particular, *Frisk* deals with a serial killer of teenage gay boys, was very controversial when published, and even more so when turned into a low-budget film shot in the Castro. "Dennis Cooper has said I've haunted his career in a weird way because *Closer*, his book about young gay kids in LA, seemed sort of marginalized by the success of *Less Than Zero*. If *American Psycho* was about a gay serial killer and his victims were men, would there have been such a controversy? That's something that has haunted me and makes me think terrible things about our culture — that there wouldn't be an outrage over that, and yet there's an outrage over a man killing women." ▼

American Psycho opens Friday, April 14.

Pimpernel

◀ page 36

el about Paris, rescuing potential victims of the guillotine, drawing attention only for their powder-puffed behavior.

It's a plot that allows for fanciful costumes, swordfights, comic exuberance, and soaring ballads. Wildhorn's music may become melodic mush shortly after it enters the ear, and Nan Knighton's lyrics are of the easy-rhyme vari-

ety, but the songs do give the three co-stars ample chance to display their vocal powers.

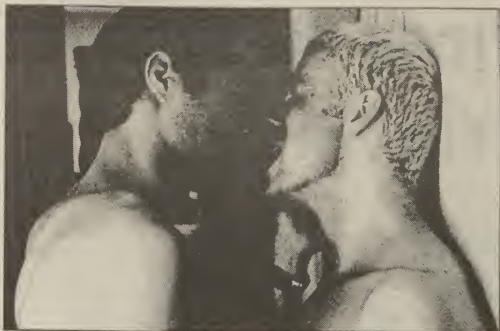
Sills possesses a thrillingly spacious voice that, in addition to his matinee-idol looks and keen comic sense, makes this a memorable star turn. As Sir Percy's French nemesis, William Paul Michals effectively plays this Javert-like character, and sings with full-throated commitment several songs that sound like they could have been lifted from *Les Misérables*. Amy Bodnar, as Sir Percy's wife, is a proper com-

bination of the feisty and the angelic, and also possesses an inviting voice.

Still, this is Sills's show, and he doesn't disappoint. Just beware of that little slip of paper that starts off, "At this performance the role of Percy will be played by..." ▼

The Scarlet Pimpernel will run at the Orpheum Theatre through April 16. Tickets are \$32.50-\$69.50. Call (415) 512-7770.

FILM

Javier Albala and Gustavo Salmeron in *Not Love Just Frenzy*

Just Frenzy

◀ Arts cover

cops think Max murdered one of his tricks in Barcelona, and when Maria mistakes the pursuing cop for her blind date, things get complicated. These stories and various subplots (including one about a hunky nude model) are vaguely connected by a series of encounters with drag queens who are out tripping the strobe-light fantastic at Monica's Club Frenzy.

Multiple orgasms

It took three writer/directors to whip this potboiler into a multiple-orgasm experience, and they clearly relished their task. Alfonso Albacete, Miguel Bardem, and David Menkes share writer/director credit and a love for the nightlife that goes way beyond Alicia Bridges' '70s disco anthem. The music (by Bardem and consultant Juan Cook) is an authentic house/techno mix which mirrors the incessant party-animal drive of the protagonists. Production designer Alain Baine and costumers Paloma Lopez and Vito Y Vida create a throbbing visual palate that looks like Vivienne Westwood, on acid, designing the disco debut of Louis XIV. The whole production is over the top, but somehow it works.

Although we've seen all the elements of *Not Love Just Frenzy* be-

fore, no one has put them together quite like this. The three writer/directors detail lives at the crest of a youthful wave, just before it crashes on the shore of reality. The sexuality (homo and hetero) is frank and graphic; the club scenes are believable; and the soap opera plot is infused with a smart tongue-in-cheek humor that will make you laugh out loud on more than one occasion. When the major characters, assisted by the drag queens, collide in the Men's Room of the disco to dispose of a body, the results are hysterical. And the film ends with one of the most memorable blowjobs in the history of cinema.

The characters of *Not Love Just Frenzy* perfectly embody the film's title. Emotionally vapid, self-centered and vain, they are incapable of creating deep or lasting human connections. This phenomenon results not only from their individual personalities, but the milieu in which they travel. Some will emerge whole from the Madrid party circuit, and others will crash and burn. Did you ever wonder what it might be like to work as a barback at the Spanish disco *du jour*? By the time you leave the theater, you'll know. ▼

Not Love Just Frenzy opens Friday, April 14 at the Lumiere Theatre.

Ute Lempert

◀ page 35

explore more duet situations, sure. With Costello, with Tom Waits, with Lou Reed. There are a lot out there that I would love to do something with. With Randy Newman or even with a woman, on a duet. That would be fantastic. I would love to.

It's interesting that you should mention women, because all of the songs on *Punishing Kiss* were written by men. Were there any female songwriters whose work you had considered for this project?

Yes, I would love to work with Joni Mitchell or Tracy Chapman, with Bjork. I love Fiona Apple, for example. I don't know why they're only men. That's really pure coincidence. I think we contacted Bjork, but I don't know whether we contacted Joni Mitchell. Maybe for the next one, that would be fun. The next one, with lots of women writers.

How were the five cities chosen for the tour on which you are about to embark?

The album release had been pushed back, and we had to put the tour together really quickly. Immediately after this, I'm off to Europe, which had already been booked for a longer time. We just popped in five cities, the ones which were available really quickly. The rest, I will do in the fall. If the album works well, I will go for another tour in the fall and cover

more cities.

Will you be making a music video for any songs on the album?

Yes, we made one for "The Case Continues." It's running over and over already on European VH1. I don't know what's going on with American VH1. It's very hard to get into the American video thing, because it's teenage chart music. It's a fantastic video. Sophie Mueller did it. She does the Annie Lennox videos.

As an artist who has performed on both the musical stage and in cabaret, you have a sizable gay following. Are you aware of a gay fan base, and is there anything you would like to say to them?

Sure, I'm aware of them. A large part of the audience is gay. Yes, I love it. When I sing the cabaret songs from Berlin of the '20s, a lot of it is about sexuality, freedom of expression, freedom of sexuality, homosexuality, emancipation, about women's rights. It's about free love. They're all deeply passionate songs. Anti-establishment. De-masking corruption in society. That is truly the context of these songs. But I also think it is maybe the style of performance. I go into a certain femme fatale consciousness that attracts a gay audience. I'm loving it. ▼

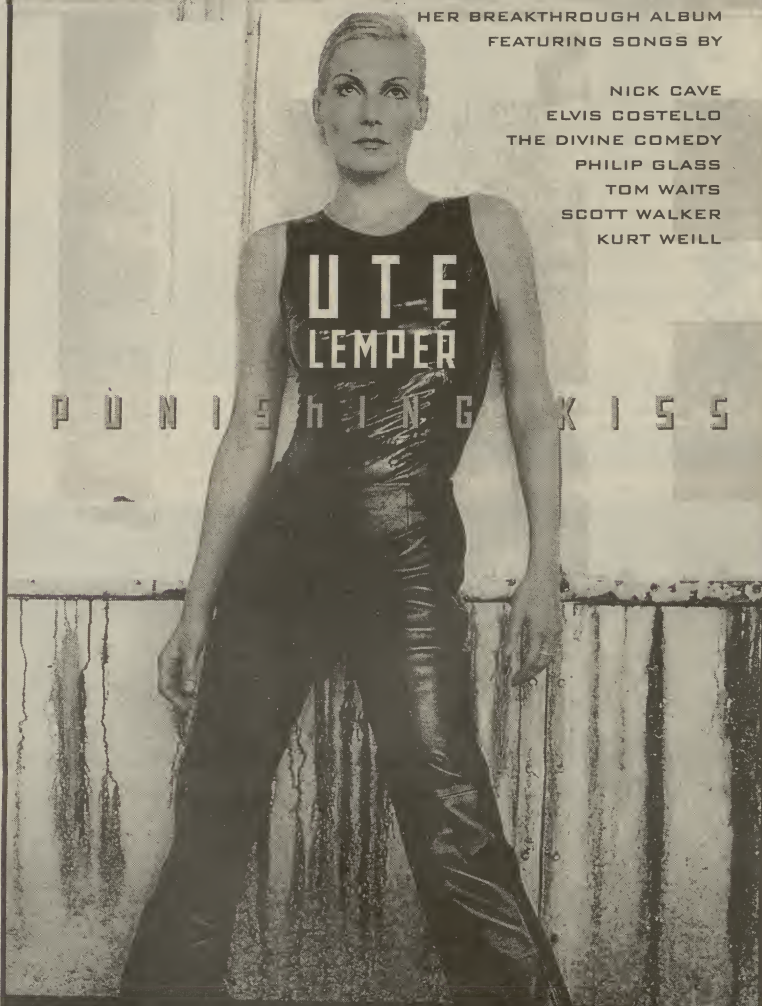
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Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, after Alvin Ailey

by Aimée Ts'ao

While the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is performing this week, through Sunday at Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall, you have the opportunity to see two different programs, one a selection of work from the repertory from 1966 to

'93, and the other its latest premieres from the current season plus the troupe's signature piece *Revelations*, which appeared in embryonic form at the company's debut in 1958.

To appreciate the true significance of these choices, you need to understand that this 42-year-old, internationally acclaimed dance institution started as the dream of a young impassioned choreographer, Alvin Ailey, who began life as an impoverished black child in Texas. The creation of this company cannot be taken out of historical context. In 1958, the Supreme Court had only a few years before ruled that schools must be integrated. As the fledgling troupe began garnering notice on international tours, at home in New York, or touring the US, the civil rights movement was rapidly gaining momentum. Unlike Martha Graham's company or

George Balanchine's New York City Ballet, which were vehicles to promote the choreography of each genius, Ailey envisioned a place where many black artistic voices would have a place to be seen and heard.

We could easily take this remarkable dance company for granted, in the same way that living in San Francisco today can make the struggle for gay rights seem less pressing than in the pre-

and the Jackson Five. We were always dancing in the living room, outside, and for little street fairs. That's where we got the feeling for movement, so when this program came up with the free training, we went with it. By the time I got to the Performing Arts High School, Ailey was a major part of my life. I really began to see the company and know some of the dancers in it. When I started really watching the performances, I got bitten by

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Stonewall days. It is important to remember that even though there had been several all-black dance groups before, such as that of Katherine Dunham, who greatly inspired the young Ailey, his company firmly placed black art in the white mainstream consciousness.

Trying to make a connection with a member of the Ailey company while on tour is harder than aiming at a moving target, but eventually I reached Troy Powell on the phone at his hotel in Arizona for an interview. As a nine-year veteran of the company who started his dance education in the Ailey School, Powell has spent more than two-thirds of his life as part of the "Ailey family," and currently teaches the company.

Aimée Ts'ao: You started training at the Ailey School when you were quite young. How did that come about?

Troy Powell: When I was nine years old, I started at the Ailey School in a program called the Arts Connection, which auditioned at my elementary school. Hundreds of kids tried out, and my brother and I were chosen. We went by bus at lunchtime to the Ailey School, where we had classes in both modern dance and ballet. It was a lot of fun, and something to do to keep someone from the Inner City out of trouble. I graduated to the junior division, and then eventually to the scholarship program. After that I was in the Ailey Repertory Ensemble, the training company, before I finally joined the main company. Real stepping stones.

It certainly proves that outreach programs can actually work. When did you get bitten by the dance bug and realize that you wanted to make dancing your career?

We grew up on Michael Jackson

the bug, and I knew that this was the company I wanted to dance for.

What's the difference between how the company was when Ailey was still alive [he died in 1989] and how it is currently, under Judith Jamison?

I never danced in the company with Mr. Ailey, but I did do workshops with him, and he also worked with me in the Ailey Repertory Ensemble. Mr. Ailey always had a love and passion for reaching out to people, especially kids. He would take more time for his school, his students, than he would for his company. He wanted to invite everyone into his world.

Then, it was more for the art of dance; and now, it seems like it is more for the business, which is great, because the company is still surviving. Although there is artistry, it is more of a business, and the passion and love is fading away. If you were fortunate to have had that "Ailey experience" with the man himself, then you know you still have that passion and love within the artistry, and you are out there dancing for the love of it, rather than the money. It's not just a job.

He started the company with nothing, and many people helped him and gave him the things he needed, so he wanted to give in return. As a black man myself, it's very inspiring to see that an organization is still standing after 42 years because of one man's dream. And that gives me the incentive to want to teach and choreograph and share my knowledge, especially with those who are less fortunate. ▼

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, at Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley through Sunday. Tickets: call (510) 642-9988.

Sister art

Thomasina DeMaio portrays the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence

by Tina Barni

To capture a moment, an emotion or expression has been the life's work of one San Francisco artist. In a society that measures success through money and fame, Thomasina Josephine DeMaio has sought the opposite path, finding fulfillment by creating art for charitable causes.

"Some artists have grandiose ideas about getting famous and rich, but they're missing the point," says DeMaio. "They may begin by expressing themselves and their heart, but when they get into the business end of it, they are expected to keep cranking out art, even if it's not what they want to create."

As a figurative artist who paints and sculpts the human form, DeMaio has been creating art for charitable causes for over a decade. Most of her work centers on people who have been part of her life.



Artist Thomasina DeMaio

In December 1999, at Harvey's in the Castro, DeMaio was made a Saint by the San Francisco chapter of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, for her 1990 series of portraiture work on the Sisters. For DeMaio, it was a memorable experience.

"It was exhilarating," says DeMaio. "To be sainted while I'm still living makes me a living saint. They're acknowledging that they believe in what I do. It was like a friend saying, 'Thank you for helping me.'"

DeMaio lives in San Francisco in a house that is a gallery as much as it is a home. Portraits and sculptures are present in each room. Faces and figures from her life stare out from every wall and corner space. Her voice drops to a whisper when she talks about her portraits and sculptures, as if she were revealing secrets about the people she painted.

She has donated her paintings to help raise money for such charitable nonprofits as the San Francisco Firefighters Toy Program and the American Cancer Foundation.

"Most of my work is volunteer," she says. "I've stayed away from doing gallery stuff. I would rather be out there creating what I want, while bringing people together to raise money for a cause."

Born to draw

DeMaio, 49, began her career relatively late in life. The third of six children, DeMaio was born and raised in Upstate New York. Her parents were both educators. The desire and ability to draw the human face came from the tutelage of her late Uncle Joey.



A work from the Angels in Whiteface show.

"My Uncle Joey, who was an artist and gay drag queen, turned me on to a lot," DeMaio says. "He would make me do portraits, draw George Washington, and just copy faces on paper. He was something else."

After a couple of years in Boston as a pre-school teacher and street artist, DeMaio made her way to the West Coast. A self-described "flower child," she came to San Francisco in 1973 and never left.

She worked as a waitress and bartender. Eventually, she came to own a restaurant, Toppers, with three other partners. After selling her restaurant in 1980, she was able to attend the San Francisco Art Institute, where she received a BFA in 1983 and an MFA in 1985.

DeMaio enjoyed her years at the San Francisco Art Institute. As a 29-year-old student, she came to school with more life experience. She was persistent about painting the human figure.

DeMaio never veered from her desire to paint the human form. Her colleague and mentor, Bruce McGraw, feels DeMaio has affected the lives of people through her work.

McGraw, 64, who lives in Alameda, has been a professor at the San Francisco Art Institute for over 30 years. He is also a noted figurative artist, whose works have been exhibited in galleries and museums throughout the Bay Area.

"She really likes people," says McGraw. "Thomasina has a very large embrace of the spectrum of what goes on in human affairs and activities. She embraces life, creating paintings that affect us on personal terms."

From interviews with her subjects, DeMaio is able to paint their "essence." The "essence" of a person can be derived from a unique expression or emotion. DeMaio captures the essence by adding depth to the eyes, or curving a smile. She uses oil paint on canvas for most of her paintings.

"I love doing portraits, but it is tricky," says DeMaio. "As you sit with a subject, you can see that person go through four or five moods, and you have to decide who the person is. If executed well, you tell as much as you can about them—that's the story, their essence."

Focusing on the Sisters

The focal point of much of her work has been her portrait and sculpture series on the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence in San Francisco. The Sisters are a nonprofit organization of men who paint

their faces and wear the habit of Catholic nuns. They hold benefits that raise money for charity-based causes.

Last September, as a part of the Sisters' 20th anniversary, a revival showing of 18 portraits and 21 sculptures DeMaio had originally created in 1990 was shown at The Lab, an arts space in San Francisco.

Impressed with their ability to raise awareness for AIDS-related causes, DeMaio contacted the Sisters to paint and sculpt them for free. Her work culminated in *Angels in Whiteface*, a benefit that raised \$15,000 for the AIDS Emergency Fund and the Mayor's Homeless Fund.

DeMaio received a certificate of honor and appreciation from the Board of Supervisors for the *Angels in Whiteface* exhibit.

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A little of this, a little of that

by Deborah Peifer

Looking for a chance to hang out with some of the best writers from the Bay Area and beyond? The Lambda Literary Foundation honors Lammy nominees at a reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on April 13 at the Main Library. Felice Picano, Barbara Wilson, Christian de la Huerta, Bob Smith, Marvin White, Tommi Avicolli Mecca and Felice Newman (among others) will be on hand to sign books and read.

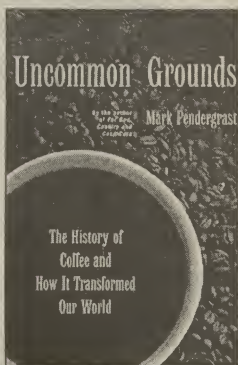
While you're there, wander up to the James C. Hormel Center to view *Sheets in the Wind: A History of the Poster in the LGBT Community*. The exhibition is curated by the LGBT Historical Society of Northern California and the Center for the History of Sexual Diversity. These posters will bring back memories, I suspect, and remind us of the astonishing creativity of our communities. The show runs through May 26.

If you've recently discovered the joys of tea, or are a longtime aficionado, join James Norwood Pratt (New Tea Lover's Treasury) for a workshop on the history and variety of tea at the Main on April 22, 1 to 3 p.m.

What's your poison?

If Pratt's words compel you to drink tea, Ulrica Hume's *San Francisco in a Teacup: A Guide-*

book for Tea Lovers (Blue Circle, \$15.95) directs you to teas high and low, with a wide range of prices, dress codes, and the like. The information is useful and entertainingly presented. The perfect gift (no, it's not too early to think about the winter gift season) for those who love the cup that enlivens but does not inebriate.



If coffee is your cup of tea, *Uncommon Grounds: The History of Coffee and How It Transformed Our World* (Mark Pendergrast; Basic Books, \$30) and *The Devil's Cup: Coffee, the Driving Force in History* (Stewart Lee Allen; Soho,

\$25) provide facts and more than a little political commentary. It is a mark of my own addiction that my response to receiving two books on the history of coffee is to ask, "Why only two?" Certainly a topic so important to the quality of life of millions, if not billions, around the globe deserves this much attention, and more. Pendergrast's is the more scholarly, but that makes it no less a captivating history. Allen's is the more obsessive, and his search for the ultimate coffee experience is an extraordinary adventure. Had he contacted me, however, I could have saved him the trip, because the best coffee anywhere, Sumatra Mandehling Dark, is to be found at The Castro Cheesery, 427 Castro St. Trust me.

Words of wisdom

My first exploration of things lesbian took place at a lesbian bookstore in Chicago. The store was on the fifth floor of an office building, and not easy to find. Fast forward 30+ years, and we can find queer bookstores in lots of open and accessible places. If we don't buy books at these stores, of course, the stores will disappear, just as our books will disappear from mainstream bookstores when we are no longer the flavor of the month. Bell hooks explained the importance of independent bookstores at an appearance arranged by Gaia Books (now closed, alas, but at <http://www.gaiaabooks.com> the website lives on).

The following is from Pat Holt's online column about all things bookish, *Holt Uncensored* (you can subscribe at <http://www.nciba.com/patholt.html>): "Hooks explained to the audience that even before the book was published, she had been told it was a 'failure.' The reason: 'certain big conglomerates were known not to have ordered very many copies of it.' But as Hooks



told the audience, authors and booksellers share a tough fate in today's publishing scene unless readers take a stand.

'One of the things that often happens [when] independent bookstores put on marvelous events like this [is that] people come, but they don't buy books,' she told the audience.

'Not only do the independent bookstores do the work of bringing you the books by the writers and bringing you closer to the

writers, they don't get the reward.' Then she made the first applause-rousing statement of the day: 'This is something you have to remember — purchasing the book is a political gesture in support of independent bookstores. It's not just about the discount you can get elsewhere. It's about these spaces and keeping them going. It's also about keeping writers like myself going.'

Briefly

If you've never imagined yourself as a sex worker, but you'd love to know the whys and wherefores, *next page* ►



Book Report

House of Mirth

◀ page 36

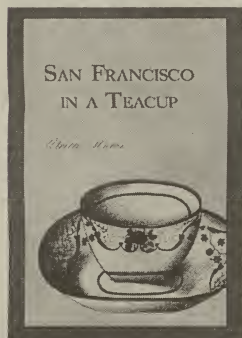
in a social corset that demands she find a wealthy mate, is only lightly suggested in Roxanne Raja's unfaceted performance. Havergal further undermines her plight with an altered ending that suggests a timidity that didn't preoccupy Wharton nearly 100 years ago.

J. Paul Boehmer, as the struggling lawyer Lily can't afford to marry, is competent if a little colorless. Julie Eccles sharply communicates the terror of social dictator Bertha Dorset, though her impression of Grace Stepney is a faintly ridiculous caricature. Lorri Holt manages some sensitive moments

as Gertie Farish, Lily's sweet but "dingy" protector, and Dominique Lozano creates a broadly drawn version of Lily's dyspeptic aunt.

Havergal, an accomplished Scottish director, has made a career of adapting novels to the stage, including his popular version of *Travels with My Aunt*. But *House of Mirth* is a book that may only be able to soar on the page. The shame of this production is that it will probably keep the uninitiated from discovering the joys of Wharton. ▼

The House of Mirth will run at the Geary Theatre through April 23. Tickets are \$14-\$55. Call (415) 749-2228.



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BOOKS

Reviving Ackerley

by Dan Blue

These days Joe Ackerley's reputation is something like that of Christopher Isherwood before *Cabaret* made him a celebrity. He's a respected British gay writer whom few people actually read.

Nonetheless, Ackerley's stock has been rising. Since his death in 1967, the British literati have given him the star treatment, publishing his letters and a full-dress biography (*Ackerley: The Life of J.R. Ackerley* by Peter Parker). And just this past year, *The New York Review of Books* reissued Ackerley's major books (*My Dog, Tulip*; *My Father and Myself*; *Hindoo Holiday*; and *We Think the World of You*). Now readers can judge for themselves whether he should be raised from the grave.

Born in 1896 (the same year as F. Scott Fitzgerald), J.R. Ackerley was a child of the Jazz Age but found being gay difficult in conservative London, where proposing a sex act could land one in jail. He earned his keep as an editor of the BBC magazine, commissioning articles by Virginia Woolf, W. H. Auden, and E.M. Forster (who became something of a mentor). Meanwhile, he wrote books so "out" that it's hard to believe they were published at the time, and he led a wildly cruisy life. "Far more people have gone out of my life than have stayed in it — like a hotel," he later commented. "And the rooms are mostly bedrooms."

After this glamorous youth, Ackerley did the unexpected. He fell in love with a dog. Years of cruising had left him unsatisfied, and he became smitten with a German shepherd named Queenie and withdrew altogether from

affairs with men. He didn't just love her, he gave up his sex life for her; and the two spent 16 years of wedded bliss.

For those who might not understand, Ackerley recorded the experience in *My Dog Tulip* (a book in which he renamed her, since "Queenie" might inspire snickers). There, he described his dog with the fascination of an anthropologist going native. He didn't just adore her; he strove to understand her activities, sanitary and otherwise, from her own point of view. Noting the sites

Think the World of You (subsequently made into a film starring Gary Oldman and Alan Bates), he depicted his love for Queenie as a form of social isolation.

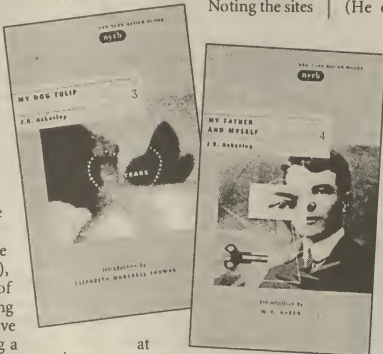
Dear old Dad

He had long recognized that there was something wrong with his romantic life and began to examine his family for signs of dysfunction. He didn't have to look hard. On his father's death, it emerged that the old gentleman had raised two families without bothering to marry either "wife." (He eventually wed Ackerley's mother, but only after the children were grown.) Many sons would have wilted under such revelations, but Ackerley saw a book in them and spent the rest of his life writing it.

My Father and Myself, an account of their relationship, was not published until after Ackerley's death, and provoked the usual backlash of scandal. Apart from the sexual dirt, Ackerley included details not for the squeamish — such as the color of his brother's penis and the exact way his father picked his nose. Even his associates recoiled, and Forster commented, "It seems so ill-tempered, and such a reproach to all his friends. I wish I could give him a good smack!"

Ackerley probably grinned as he left this bombshell behind. "I am not anxious to spare the feelings of philistines," he remarked, and when a friend complained that he upset his readers, he responded, "To speak the truth, I think that people ought to be upset ... Life is so important and, in its workings, so upsetting, that nobody should be spared."

Ackerley gave no quarter, and though his books can be hilarious (*My Dog, Tulip*), they are sometimes pitiless and even cruel (*We Think the World of You*). Common to all is a search for love — a quest Ackerley often made fun of, but could never shake. He inhabited a world where his own sexual leanings were taboo, and some of his ferocity no doubt stemmed from rage at his blighted affections. Whether joy or fury, he recorded his history with a gusto which delights readers to this day. The world he lived in has vanished, but Ackerley refuses to die. ▼



at which she squatted, he decided that it was not by accident that she preferred freshly scoured stoops and magnificent gardens to reward with fluids. "Dogs read the world through their noses and write their history in urine," he explained. "She was endorsing these delectable things with her signature, much as we underline a book we are reading."

This affair had its dark side, and his biographer records that Ackerley's friends (most of whom hated the dog) "saw this devotion to Queenie's every need as the culmination of a lifetime's self-abasement before his lovers." Ackerley himself understood this point of view, and in his novel *We*

Book Report

◀ previous page

stop by A Different Light on April 19 at 7:30 p.m. to hear local contributors to *Tricks and Treats: Sex Workers Write About Their Clients*, edited by Matt Bernstein Sycamore, read from their work.

If you are not already a fan of Swizzle, Liver and Byte, the heroes of Jennifer Camper's extraordinarily subversive cartoons, rush to your favorite independent book-

store and buy *subGURLZ* (Cleis, \$10.95). These women have the coolest superpowers ever, and they do all the things we wish we could do. Camper has a lot to say about life in a capitalist hell, all of it entertaining; her plots and their resolutions are deeply satisfying. ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries or information of a literary nature, send them to peiferd@aol.com, or via snail mail to the B.A.R.

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The word made flesh

Lesbian and gay poetry collection

by Mark J. Huisman

The World In Us edited by Elena Georgiou and Michael Lassell; St. Martin's Press, \$29.95

In her 1977 essay "Poetry is Not A Luxury," Audre Lorde wrote, "Poetry is... a vital necessity of our existence. It forms the quality of light within which we predicate our hopes and dreams toward survival and change, first made into language, then into idea, then into more tangible action. Poetry is the way we help give name to the nameless so it can be thought. The farthest horizons of our hopes and fears are cobbled by our poems, carved from the rock experiences of our daily lives." Poets Elena Georgiou and Michael Lassell, who co-edited

ed the highly anticipated anthology *The World In Us, Lesbian and Gay Poetry of the Next Wave*, could not agree more.

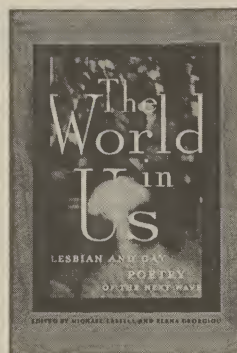
"In the 19th century, poets were widely read and had major impact," says Lassell. "In other countries today, poems appear in daily newspapers next to the soccer scores. People are sent to jail or elected president for writing those poems. The notion that poetry is obscure confuses people. Reading poetry is just like reading anything else."

"Why in this day of music videos are we so afraid of something that takes ten minutes to read?" Georgiou laughs. "Because we're still fighting high school English memories in which you're taught to appreciate the language but not really know what's going on. People see stan-

zas and line breaks and think, 'Oh, I'm too stupid to get it.' They want to think a poem means one thing. But it means what it means to you."

A native of Great Neck who studied at Colgate, the California Institute of the Arts and the Yale School of Drama (and actually graduated from all three), Lassell wrote his first verse at the precocious age of eight.

"I was sitting in the back of my third grade classroom while my mom was having a teacher conference," Lassell recalls, his voice lilting into the cadences of childhood. "I made a drawing of a little brook in a little landscape with little trees. Mom and the teacher still weren't done, so I wrote a poem. It had the word 'beyond' in it. That's all I remember. Knowing the word 'beyond.'"



A native Briton of Cypriot descent, Georgiou trained as a dancer before embarking on a performing and teaching career. Under the illusion she might obtain "a marketable skill," she emigrated to New York and enrolled at Hunter College, where she promptly fell in love with poetry. "Audre [Lorde] had become too sick to teach," Georgiou recalls. "And Melinda Goodman took over for her. She gave me my first poem to read."

Today, Georgiou teaches tomorrow's bards at Hunter, and her former teacher is a contributor to *The World In Us*. Like her co-editor, Georgiou's poetic memories extend far back in life.

"When I was a child, my aunt had a very weak heart. Doctors said that having children would be a real risk. But she took the risk, had the baby and came home fine. During a visit home, I showed my first poem to my family and my aunt said, 'Do you remember when you wrote me a poem?' I actually wrote her a poem when she came out of hospital. And I had completely forgotten."

Reader-friendly

But the work collected in *The World In Us* is very unlikely to be forgotten. Thanks to a brilliant decision by Lassell and Georgiou, the poetry is organized alphabetically by author, so readers can skip about with no fear they might miss something or worrying that they must finish reading one writer before exploring another.

"You can just open it to a random page," Lassell says. "Or you can start at the beginning and read straight through. We didn't need an editorial comment on whose work resembles whose, or what something means. The readers will get it. They'll decide for themselves."

Some readers may opt to start with familiar favorites like Alfred

Corn, Dennis Cooper, Mark Doty, Marilyn Hacker, Minnie Bruce Pratt or Reginald Shepherd. Dive in and drift through the narrative passageways of Eileen Myles' "An American Poem" or Beatrix Gates' "Triptych."

Newcomers may want to jump into the lustrous poems of youngsters like Letta Neely, Justin Chin or energetic slam champ Reggie Cabico, whose "Art in Architecture" forms an erect cock. Not feeling particularly focused today? Stream your consciousness to Robert Glück's "Boroughs" or Chrystos' marvelous "I Suck": "Did you come a little bit, Baby? Oh FUCK you." Perhaps you're in the mood for some snappy pop culture? Try David Trinidad's "Things to Do in Valley of The Dolls (The Movie)" or Eloise Klein Healy's shimmering "Louganis."

Like all poetry, *The World In Us* is the perfect relaxation elixir for our harried lives. One poem might take 15 minutes to read — no more than your morning commute — others last just 60 imagistic seconds. So get a head start on that summer book bag. After all, from park lawn to beach blanket, poetry is the language of love, and you never know when you might need a little inspiration.

This leads us to those of you who may have a little sex on the brain. Despair not, opportunity abounds. Flip from Georgiou's elegantly romantic "Intimate Mixture" to Olga Broumas' sexually unapologetic "Tryst": "The human cunt, like the eye, dilates with pleasure." Suck up to Lassell's "Kissing Ramón" or Mark Wunderlich's party-driven "Take Good Care of Yourself": "It is a vision, I'm sure of this, of what heaven might provide — a sea of men all muscle, white briefs and pearls..."

When all is said and done or, rather, written and read, the best description of this incomparable collection can be found in Lassell and Georgiou's introduction. "*The World In Us* is not just an invitation to enter the world that our minority poetry has become as the millennium turns," they write, "but a statement — one we believe is supported by the work — that by ourselves we contain the world. We hardly need a place at anyone else's table, when our own dining room is full to bursting." ▼

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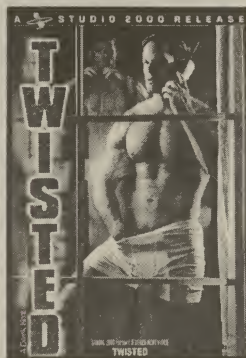
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I like to be in America

by Victoria A. Brownworth

Between the Elian Gonzalez story and the new Gap ads, we feel trapped in a surreal West Side Story meets *Groundhog Day* TV miniseries. The climactic final episodes of the Elian Story (and shouldn't this be on Univision?) have begun just in time for the next round of TV sweeps — not to mention political debates. We are so tired of this story we would rather become Cody Gifford's nanny than have to see Janet Reno, Joe Carrollo, Fidel Castro or Juan Gonzalez give one more bilingual soundbite, or see Elian fondling one more cute little animal, ¡Ay carumbal!

Frankly, we'd like to put the whole group on a flotilla as long as there are no microphones or cameras. Can't we just have Andrew Lloyd Weber do the musical version, get Gloria Estefan and Rita Moreno to star in it and *move on*? Of course, listening to Carrollo threaten the Feds did make us think a bit of a rumble might break out in South Beach, but we'll just have to wait for the series finale to see what happens.

Speaking of getting ready to rumble, Bill Maher hosted a few wrestlers and wrestler wannabes on *Politically Incorrect* the other night. He raised the issue of the gay end (so to speak) of wrestling, explaining that in high school he had always tried to get out of wrestling. It just seemed too queer for him.

"To this day I don't want to touch other men," Maher admitted. "Am I homophobic, or are you wrestler guys just really gay?" One of the wrestlers growled, "Who you callin' gay?" Then Maher — politically pro-gay and the only network talk host to regularly put queers on his show — reasserted that wrestling does seem pretty queer (well, we have thought so ever since we saw Ken Russell's film *Women in Love* — Alan Bates and Oliver Reed tus-

sling nude on the rug in front of the fire certainly put the H in homophobic for us.) Maher noted, "They like it, and it pays well. Look, the Greeks invented wrestling — need I say more?"

Star of stage and *Scream* Rose MacGowan put her two cents in, noting that her gay friends spend their Saturday afternoons watching wrestling. The topic then turned to the acceptability of lesbianism in straight

porn because, Maher noted, "I like to talk gay." David Arquette, whose brother Alexis is a queen for all seasons, volunteered, "I kissed Elliot Gould once. He was good. A little sloppy, but good." Thanks

for sharing. Like having the image of you and wife Courtney "Call Me Skeleton" Cox *en flagrante* wasn't creepy enough. Apparently, David's kissing role was in a film about hustling. Can you say typecasting?

Speaking of typecasting, Rosie O'Donnell was fuming the other morning about the bad press she got after going to her high school reunion. Seems Rosie got dissed — the tabloids claimed, "She's not married so she didn't want husbands there." (No one mentioned wives.) Rosie added, "There were 540 of us — I thought there were enough people there!" But to appease the masses, Rosie sprung for brunch for everyone — hubbies, *et al.* — in the class. In New York. Guess she's gonna need that gig on *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire* after all.

Meanwhile, Her High Divaness, Miss Diana Ross, was the talk of tabloid TV this week after she announced the Supremes would be doing an anniversary tour — or what we call a "revive your own flagging career" tour. Turns out the Supremes tour would be *sans* the original Supremes. Seems Miss Ross, as

she's known to her friend, didn't want to risk being upstaged by Mary Wilson and Cindy Birdsong (Florence Ballard died some years back). Diana still puts the D in diva. And the B in bitch. Which may be why Mariah Carey only tours with boy groups.

Speaking of bad taste, quite a bit of bitching has been going on in the wake of Leo DiCaprio's probably never-to-be-seen inter-

view with President Clinton. Seems ABC thought having young Leo quiz the Prez for Earth Day would be, you know, like, cool for ratings. Unfortunately, Leo took the gig seriously, and a few other, uh, serious journalists

got a little miffed. *Access Hollywood* and *ET* interviewed Leo, and a Titanic scandal has ensued. Sam Donaldson actually found himself at a loss for words when queried about Leogate, and Mr. Nice Guy Tom Brokaw, guesting on *Conan O'Brien*, felt compelled to join in the dis fest. Even the Prez himself, speaking at an industry do last week, chided the ABC mullahs, noting, "Haven't you people learned anything? It's not the act that gets you, it's the cover up." Stay tuned. Frankly, we hope ABC just goes for the gutter on this one. Sometimes we actually want to know what goes on behind Clinton's closed doors.

Speaking of closed doors, that and a lot of soulful looks and

hand-holding are all we seem to be getting out of the Willow/Tara pairing on *Buffey, the Vampire Slayer*. The WB tosses straight teens in the sack together faster than you can say *Felicity* — so what's the hold up with the wiccan couple? We know they're shy girls, but Willow managed to get into bed with werewolf boy Oz, so why not with her witchy companion?

Conversely (or is that *perverse-ly*?), *Frasier* just keeps flogging the audience with little queerisms. These days, the effete brothers Crane aren't enough — now macho Dad is getting into the act. Last week, while out with Daphne (Jane Leeves), Papa Crane (John Mahoney) bought himself a handbag and a pair of Sophia Loren glasses — women's. No one seemed to be able to tell him he looked fabulous. (We thought he looked very Sir Elton, ourselves.) But what's the joke? We know the kids are queer as a quiche, but macho Dad? Usually he spots the queer stuff a mile off. Dad is the show's straight foil, after all. So queening him up isn't pushing the envelope, merely straining credulity.

Meanwhile, it's been a long time coming, but Bill Brochtrup finally seems to be more than gay window-dressing on *NYPD Blue*. His character, referred to by Andy Sipowicz (Dennis Franz) as "Gay John," figured in queer storylines in recent weeks. Most intense was a gay jealousy murder in which he helped set the killer up for capture and then comforted the lover. We like seeing Brochtrup on the front

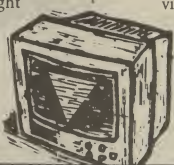
burner, and hope these episodes are merely previews of things to come. We particularly liked his snap-diva line to a homophobe, "Just keep telling yourself you're not gay." You go, girl!

Speaking of girls, Megan Mullaly, who plays the ultra-fabulous fag hag Karen on *Will & Grace*, is one. Apparently, Mullaly has been dogged by rumors that she's really a man. She's so fed up she's now just doing her Karen impression — waving her hand and saying, "Yeah, yeah, I heard, honey, I'm a man. What else is new?"

Our quote of the week comes from fabu actor and hunky supervillain Hunt Block, whose character, Ben, was recently murdered on *Guiding Light*. Said Block in an interview with *Soap Opera Digest*, "You know you're famous when people start saying you're gay."

Hope Jacob Young is listening. His heart-stopping surfer boy looks have made his recast as *General Hospital's* Lucky Spencer an immediate hit — with the boys as well as the girls. Any day now we expect to see him in *The Advocate*.

Finally, in the registry of Felliniesque TV moments, the ever-queer *World News Now* outperverted themselves last week when Sam Donaldson sang "Come on to My House" to X-rated alternative rock band Limp Biskit. Yes indeed, insomnia has its perks. ABC really knows how to get the most out of their news staff. Talk about your song and dance men. Perhaps Sam can solo in *Elian: The Musical*. Stay tuned. ▼



Lavender Tube

DeMaio

◀ page 41

"I was telling the public to support them," DeMaio says of the Sisters. "Don't get pissed because they look like a blasphemous thing."

The portraits range from erotically suggestive to comical in nature. They depict the Sisters in their habits, in a pose or performing an action, such as raising the rainbow flag.

Gordon L. Elkins, 54, who lives in San Francisco, has known DeMaio for 10 years. He was president of the Sisters in 1993.

When he first met DeMaio, he was just beginning his involvement with the Sisters. In 1990, she painted his late partner, Pierre Nadau, also known as "Sister Vice and Virtue," who died of AIDS in 1992 at 33.

Elkins is eagerly waiting for DeMaio to paint his own two Sister personas, "Sister Anal Retentive" and "Cardinal Sin." He describes the painting of his partner's portrait in nun's habit as "magical." He watched DeMaio carefully reconstruct Nadau's image on canvas, and felt she captured his spirit. Elkins describes viewing his partner's portrait during the Sisters revival anniversary as an emotional event.

"It was bittersweet on many levels, because a number of the

Sisters she painted are no longer with us," he says. "It was special to have them there again at the gathering. It took us back to another era. One doesn't like to shed tears in whiteface make-up, but it was hard to hold them back when you saw their faces again."

Within the next couple of months, DeMaio will be doing another portrait series with the Sisters, to be completed by December. This series she envisions as being "grand," with 10 large portraits and two murals, capturing the Sisters of San Francisco. She is in the process of deciding where the money should go from the charity series, but hopes a good portion will go to breast cancer research.

"I would like to show what the Sisters are doing out there," she says. "It's not about the glitz and glamor, it's about them helping the community and celebrating life."

For DeMaio, life is about painting portraits. She will continue to capture the human form on canvas, raising money and awareness for charitable organizations. DeMaio creates a chance at immortality for her subjects, while giving the spectator a glimpse into a stranger's soul.

"There is a fabulous feeling to having people view your art for a benefit or charity cause," says DeMaio. "It's a privilege to be an artist and give something back — without having to charge for it." ▼

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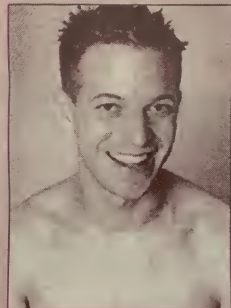
Calendare by Mark Mardon

It's a john's world

Sex workers say the darnedest things, especially about their tricks. "We share tips and warnings, we bitch about scammers, we brag and complain about our earnings, and we laugh and cry about the crazies," declares young **Matt Bernstein Sycamore**, who is both a multitalented whore (he's plied the trade as callboy, stripper, bodyworker, street hustler, phone sex operator, and porn model) and a writer of growing national repute, his work having appearing in *Best American Gay Fiction 3*; *Best Gay Erotica 2000*; *Obsessed*; and *Flesh & the Word 4*, among other publications.

Now Sycamore is touring North America from Chicago to Toronto, Minneapolis to San Francisco, paying his way by hustling while dropping in at bookstores to read from and sign copies of *Tricks and Treats: Sex Workers Write About Their Clients* (Harrington Park Press/Haworth Press, 2000; \$39.95 hard; \$17.95 soft). As its editor, this anthology is his baby, and he's a justifiably proud ho.

It's easy to imagine the authors of this volume's 24 essays all hanging out together at a party, relating tales about their tricks to one another. What's surprising is how



Editor Matt Bernstein Sycamore

stylish, articulate, and thoughtful this pack of whores turns out to be. Among them are women, men and transgender people serving the public as streetwalkers, porn models, clerks at erotic-video stores, escorts, strippers, masseurs, even sperm donors (the latter stretching the definition of sexworker, but with good reason since selling one's seed involves certain performance skills, just like other sex work). They write with remarkable frankness and clarity about the people (men, mostly) who pay them to get off. The stories they tell range from hilarious to tragic, thought-provoking to climax-inducing; few are dull. All reveal truths rarely spoken about the nature of human sexuality and desire. And all reveal Johns and hustlers alike with glaring honesty:

"When we got to [the john's] place, he was waiting for us; he was real twitchy and couldn't stop moving his mouth around, crystal marks. I figured he'd been up for a least a day," writes Gary Rosen in "Champagne Tastes on a Crystal Budget," one of the more powerful pieces in the anthology, despite its comic-book street lingo (Rosen uses "cuz" a lot, as in: "he dared me to suck his cock right there, and I did, cuz I'll do anything on a dare").

"With a job like this," admits hard-core "pro-dom" sexworker D-L Alvarez in "Scrapbook," "it's impossible to find a boyfriend."

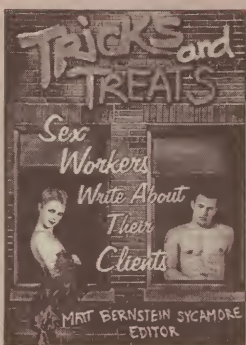
"It's a good thing we are here for the johns," writes sexologist and celebrated author Carol Queen in "Toward a Taxonomy of Tricks." "The johns need the whores' touch. We make them feel safe enough to drop their pants and talk about what they want."

Nina Hartley takes that sentiment a step further in "Bodhisattvas Among Us: Compassionate Sex Workers," one of the volume's several clunky think pieces (and the least biting, ironic, and explicit essay in the bunch, making it the least engaging): "What is wonderful about sex work is its dual reality as both a bona fide healing art and legitimate artistic expression."

"Letting a john get to know the real you crosses a dangerous line," advises Christopher Boyd in "Getting Fucked," "— solid fantasies are not built on the shallow sands of reality."

As often as not in these essays, the focus strays from the clients to the sexworkers themselves, and in this respect the book misses its intended mark. Self-centeredness overtakes several of the writers. Still, it's rarely the tricks, however colorful and kinky, who command our attention; it's the whores who really grab our gonads. ▼

Matt Bernstein Sycamore and contributors to *Tricks and Treats* will appear at Modern Times Bookstore on Tuesday, April 18, (7:30pm; 888 Valencia St.; with Jill Nagle, Laurie Sirois, and Sarah Fran Wisby) and A Different Light Bookstore on Wednesday, April 19 (7:30pm; 489 Castro St.; with Alvin Eros, Kowalski, and Carol Queen).



Fr

Victoria Theatre

Held over: "Hoodwink," the Joey Stefano story starring Joe Waterman, written by Barry Lowe, directed by Murray Hodgson. A chronicle of the fast life and slow death of gay porn's brightest star. No gratuitous nudity or go-go boys. \$25-\$35. 8pm (9pm Sat.; 7pm Sun.). Thurs.-Sun. thru April 30. 2961 16th St. 863-7576.

Luna Sea

"Studly," written and performed by Lisi DeHaas, with choreography by Deborah Hull. Directed by Ginger Eckert. \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Also on April 15. Luna Sea Women's Performance Project, 2940 16th St. Tix/info: 863-2989.

Theatre Rhinoceros

Held over: "Hoodwink," written and performed by Latin Hustle (Jamie Cortez, Adriana Gordon and Al Lujan), all Latino, queer, bilingual, political, raunchy, deranged, funny and unapologetic. \$15. 8pm. Thru April 22. Located at 2926 16th St. (at Capp St.). Tix: 861-5079.

Studio @ Rhino

"Sin," by playwright Wendy MacLeod, presented by the Custom Made Theatre Company. A comedic morality tale reminding us that while to err is human, to sin may be divine. Set at the time of the Loma Prieta earthquake in SF. Directed by Elizabeth A.S. Garrott. \$15 (\$12 students/seniors). 8:30pm (Sun. 7:30pm). Thru April 30. The studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. Tix: 861-5079.

The Lab

"Live Art Lab," featuring Lexa Walsh & George Cremaschi (eclectic mixed media performance), Piki Chappell (improvised synaesthetic music for tightrope and oscilloscope) and Liz Miller (a performance about temptation and repulsion). \$5-\$10 sliding. 9pm. 2948 16th St. 864-8855.

Theatre Artaud

Theatre of Yugen presents *The Good Guys* by Michael Edo Keane, directed by Keane and Miko Lee. Based on a true-crime story, it utilizes poetry and documentary images to explore filial responsibility, post-traumatic stress, and the warrior mythology in the world of three young Vietnamese-American brothers and their family. \$18. April 13-16 and April 20-22 at 8pm. 450 Florida St. 621-7797.

Bill Graham Civic Auditorium

"Erotica USA '00," billed as "The World's Leading Exposition of Romance, Adventure, and Sensuality." A trade show featuring 100 booths of erotic art, exotic clothing, fetish wear, jewelry, cosmetics, and X-rated publications. With lectures on human sexuality and self-improvement, exhibits, live entertainment, and surprises. Exotica USA showcases goods and services related to the adult entertainment industry, including phone sex, novelties, strip clubs, magazine publishing, and X-rated Internet sites and cable programming, all of



Latin Hustle (Adriana Gordon, Jaime Cortez and Al Lujan) perform *Hoodwink* at Theatre Rhino. See Friday.

which constitute a \$10 billion-plus industry in the United States. \$20-\$150. Speakers 11am-1:30pm; exhibition 12pm-10pm. Thru April 16. Located at Grove Street btwn. Polk & Larkin.

Dance Mission Theater

Dance Brigade presents "Skydancers: A Feast of Aerial Dance" (weekend 1 of 2), featuring women who fly through the air. With Beth Clarke Aimee Hancock, Teresa Djaburg, Suzanne Gallo, Joana Fassl, Jo Kreiter, Terry Sendgraff, Wendy Diamond, Lauren Steiner, and the Zacho Arts Education Program. \$15 adv.; \$17 door. 7pm. 3316 24th St. 826-4401.

Piaf's

Lisa Peers and Brandon Adams perform "Boy, What Love Has Done to Me!" \$10 cover. 1686 Market St. 864-3700.

Marin Center, San Rafael

Urban Bush Woman, the vibrant dance and performance company founded by choreographer Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, weave movement, a cap-

pella vocalizations, live music, and the drama and wit of the spoken word to explore the struggle, growth, transformation and survival of the human spirit. \$22 & \$28. 8pm. Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael. (415) 472-3500.

Oliver Art Center, CCAC, Oakland

Opening reception: "Subway Music Box," an exhibition of new work by Capp Street Project artist-in-residence Jim Hodges. Inspired by musicians who perform in New York City subway stations, Hodges created a multi-projection video installation that explores the beauty and cacophony of chance musical occurrences. Free. 7-9pm. California College of Arts and Crafts, 5212 Broadway (at College), Oakland. (415) 551-9210.

Sat

The California Club

SwingOUT! presents the "2nd Annual Savoy West Ball," featuring live big-band music by

The Swing Session. Formal attire requested. Hors d'oeuvres and non-alcoholic drinks served. DJ music from 7:30-9pm. \$15 door (no advance tix). 1750 Clay St. (btwn Polk & Van Ness). 339-8103.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

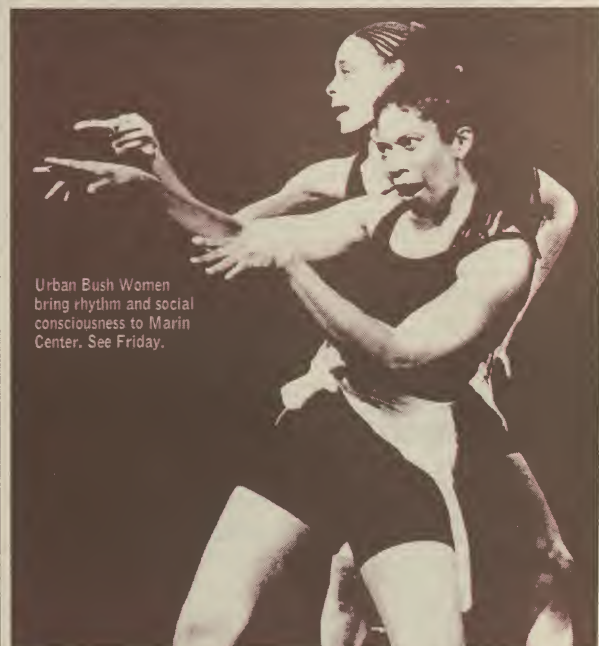
"Side by Side by Sondheim," a two-act tribute to composer/lyricist Stephen Sondheim, directed by Mike Ward. With selections from *Company*, *Follies*, and others. Directed by Mike Ward. Musical direction by Michael O'Dell. \$13-\$30. 8pm. Thru May 14, 25, Van Ness Ave. (near Market St.). 861-8972.

Most Holy Redeemer

"Monte Carlo Night," a Las Vegas style gaming night benefiting the Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group's client services. Play blackjack, roulette and craps. No host bar. Light snacks. Door prizes. \$20 donation (\$10 seniors). 6-11pm. Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, 100 Diamond St.

The Lab

"Live Art Lab," featuring m.i.



Urban Bush Women bring rhythm and social consciousness to Marin Center. See Friday.

San Franciscans celebrate their city's 150th birthday with a public exhibition at City Hall. See Wednesday.



SF History Center/SF Public Library

blue (parodic pornographic spoken Jeremiahs, mi-ki-em (live linguistic loops), Sarah Lockhart (satirical video public health presentation), and Eduardo Cure (process-based performance). With "Transport" installation by Nix Perry. \$5-\$10 sliding. 9pm. 2948 16th St. 864-8855.

SF County Fair Bldg.

"Fifth Annual Bay Area Anarchist Bookfair," featuring singer/songwriter and story teller Utah Phillips, authors Christian Parenti (S), John Zerzan (S), and Craig O'Hera (S), Kevin Keating (aka Nestor Makho, Minister of Information for the Mission Yuppie Eradication Project), and others. 10am-6pm. Lincoln Way & Ninth Ave. Info: Bound Together Bookstore, 431-8355.

Wheeler Auditorium, UC Berkeley

"A Cappella Against AIDS VII," presented by the University of California Choral Ensembles. Groups performing include the reigning National Champion of Collegiate A Cappella (NCCA) champions, the UC Men's Octet, California Golden Overtones, Cal Jazz Choir, and Artists in Resonance, and a professional a cappella group to be announced. A benefit for the AIDS Project of the East Bay. \$10 (\$5 students). 8:30pm. Wheeler Auditorium, University of California at Berkeley. Tix available from members of the performing groups, at a table set up in Sproul Plaza all day, at 91 Cesar Chavez Center during regular business hours, and (if any are left) at the door. Info: (510) 642-3880.

CenterStage, San Rafael

Jazz diva Paula West, fresh from her hugely successful run at the Plush Room in San Francisco, teams up with Grammy nominated composer and lyricist David Frishberg in an exclusive mini-engagement at CenterStage's "Singers & Songwriters" series. \$26. 8pm. Also on April 16 at 5pm. Hoytt Theater at the Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, 200 North San Pedro Road, San Rafael. 479-2000.

Club Tango Tango

"Glam Slam!" A drag cabaret hosted by Daphne Deluxe and Karen Kill, with a rotating cast of female impersonators. \$7. 10pm. 1550 California St. (at Polk). 775-0442.

550 Barneveld

Gus presents "Metropolis: Spring has Sprung," an all-night queer dance party featuring DJ David Knapp (Hell-ball '99; Saint at Large

White Party) in the main room, plus DJs Derek in the greenroom and Gray upstairs. \$20. 10pm-6am. Located between Oakdale and Industrial off Bayside (follow search-lights). 646-0890.

Sun 16

Unitarian Universalist Church

The G 40+ Club/Prime Timers host Tony Nguyen of the Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center. He'll describe his experiences of gay life, HIV, drug use, and commercial sex workers in Southeast Asia and. Free. 2:30-4:30pm. 1187 Franklin (at Geary). 552-1997.

A Different Light

Opening reception: paintings and other art objects by Mitcho. The art will hang in the gallery space above the magazines. Good place to cruise art fags. Free. 2pm. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Daddy's Bar

"Bike Day 2000," sponsored by the Inter-Club Fund of San Francisco. An outreach to the less experienced riders of the community; all invited to join. "We look to experienced riders to pass their wisdom to others." Park motorcycles in the vicinity of Daddy's (440 Castro St.) and join others in front of the bar for registration and explanation of group riding. Have full tank of gas and money for lunch and incidentals. Leave 10:30am for group ride. Return to Eagle Tavern about 3pm for Satyr's Motorcycle Club beverage benefit.

ODC Theater

"Cafe Flamenco," featuring Yealisa & Camenos Flamencos. A showcase of top flamenco dancers. First semi-professional dancers display their talents in a "tabla" environment with live musicians. Then Yealisa and guest artists perform. \$10 (\$13 reserved). 7pm. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). 863-9834.

Asian Art Museum

The Yong-In University Art Troupe perform Korean music and dance, incorporating a wide variety of distinctly Korean instruments and traditional dance pieces. \$7 gen'l admission. 2pm. Golden Gate Park (across from Music Concourse). 379-8879.

Plush Room

Singer Willis Moore celebrates the release of his CD So Far. 7pm. 940 Sutter St. 885-2800.

City Nights

Jito Presents "Time 2," a reincarnation of the legendary Sunday T-dance, featuring sensational circuit DJ Manny Lehman (LA). \$20 door (\$15 b4 7pm). 6pm-Midnight. 715 Harrison St. (at Third). 21-w/ID. Info: 552-5900

Mon 17

Piaf's

QComedy.com presents "Gay Comedy Showcase" in a new location, hosted by Maureen Brownsey (formerly a regular at the now-defunct Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint). \$5. 8pm. Piaf's Restaurant & Cabaret, 1686 Market St. (at Gough). 541-5610.

Tue 18

Intersection for the Arts

"Unfamiliar," a benefit reading and discussion for Intersection, featuring poets Dan Bellm, Molly Fisk, and Priscilla Lee from the California Poetry Series. \$5 suggested. 8pm. 446 Valencia (btwn 15th & 16th). 626-2787.

Theatre Rhinoceros

"Make It So" Productions presents "Viva Variety VIII," hosted by Steve Murray. Featuring actor Brian Yates, the Barbary Coast Cloggers, Matthew Simons (aka Peggy L'Eggs), country stars J Byrd Hosch and the Kuntry K's, Matthew Martin, comedian Karen Ripley with Eve Chosak, the Quake City Jug Band (performing music from the '20s and '30s), singer Richard Nickol, modern dancer Rocklin Thompson, and Dino Vavonni and his flaggers. A benefit for Black Coalition on AIDS. \$15. 8pm. 2926 16th St. (at S. Van Ness). 863-0741, ext. 2.

Koret Auditorium, Main Library

"Environmental Victories," a free public lecture in anticipation of Earth Day 2000 (April 22). With speakers from Rainforest Action Network, Bay Area Nuclear Waste Coalition, and Marin Audubon. Co-hosted by the Main Library's Wallace Stegner Environmental Center. Earth Day 2000 promises to be the largest environmental event in human history. 6pm. Info: 437-4852; surf www.BayAreaEarthDay.net.

Wed 19

City Hall

Opening reception: "Celebrating San Francisco: 150 Years," an exhibition on the city's history. A display of artifacts, photographs and rare documents. The city's oldest living resident will cut the ribbon at noon. A part of Civic Day, sponsored by the SF Chamber of Commerce. Free. 11am. South Light Court, City Hall, Civic Center.

API Wellness Center

"AQUA," a group by & about young queer & questioning Asians & Pacific Islanders aged 25 and under. Drop-in safe space for socializing. 7-9pm. 730 Polk St., 4th floor. Info: Ofelia Virtucio at 292-3420, ext. 315.

Thu 20

City Lights Books

Book party, reading, signing & slideshow: "Tattooing the Invisible Man: Bodies of Work, 1955-1999," featuring Don Ed Hardy. Elaborate tattoo images chronicle a body of work encompassing Asian esthetics, Western art history, surfing, hot rod art, and California Funk. Free. 7pm. 261 Columbus Ave.

The Stud

"Reform Skool," featuring skadz of sexy queerboyz dancing to house, funk, hip hop, rock "and whatever the fuck we wanna play." With DJs Jeff Chandler, Damon Burns & Phil from Philadelphia. Secluded back room. \$5 (free b4 10:30pm, w/ foreign passport, & on your birthday). 10pm-3:30am. 9th & Harrison.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Snail-mail your event listings to:

Mark Mardon
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395 Ninth Street
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The Eagle lands in Guerneville

by Mister Marcus

Last weekend saw yet another big effort to enhance the leather lifestyle in Guerneville, California, up in the beautiful Russian River area where a big gay/lesbian population exists and where leather men and women cavort in the surrounding woodlands. The region became imbued with leather pride almost two years ago when Bob Brunson at River Business established a landmark leather presence for Sonoma County and the surrounding areas.

The new Russian River Eagle opened its doors a few short weeks ago, and on Saturday night, April 8, the bar took a big step toward enhancing Guerneville's leather presence by staging the Mr. Russian River Eagle Leather 2000 contest. The winner will advance to the new North Coast Leather title, the winner of which

will compete at International Mr. Leather 2001.

The new bar (formerly River Business) has transformed into a down-to-earth, homey, leather identifiable enclave with a warm feeling and a very hunky staff. A leather pride flag, a bear flag and a gay pride flag flank the new sign out front, while the inside walls are plastered with posters from Eagle bars from around the world.

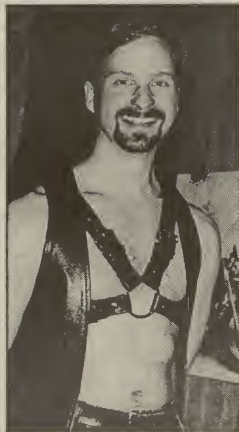


Bazaar

Four contestants — T. Jay Cain, Don Pabros, Randy Tennyson and Fred Wehman — faced the judges, who ran them through the standard format of interviews, physique displays, and posing in both formal and casual leather wear.

It was fun judging along with Pam Meyer, Bob Young, Kevin Powers (from Chicago's Cell Block) and Richard, the co-owner of the Rainbow Cattle Company.

As the emcee, Graylin Thornton managed to inject some humor into the proceedings, including a raffle conducted to ben-



Fred Wehman is the first ever Mr. Russian River Eagle Leatherman, chosen last Saturday night, April 8, in Guerneville.

efit Food For Thought, which garnered some \$1,300, augmented by a \$500 donation from Clint Potter, he of the White Swallow Bar on Polk Street.

When all the scores were calculated, the winner was declared to be Fred Wehman of Santa Rosa, a single, 36-year old Scorpio and financial analyst. The first runner-up was T. Jay Cain of Monte Rio.

Wehman next advances to compete in the forthcoming Mr. North Coast Leather contest which will include candidates from throughout Northern California, Oregon and southern Washington State. It's a fitting inaugural for another regional leather title holder.

As a postscript to all this, it appears that the Mr. Russian River Leather title is no longer a viable entity; as of my deadline, no comment from the producer of that event had come my way. May it rest in peace if indeed it is dead.

Back east

Far from the Russian River, across the country in Albany, New York, the winner of the Empire State Leather contest was Bob Forbes. The first runner-up was Don Freeman, while the second runner-up was Rob Hargrave.

next page ►



Four men competed for the Mr. Russian River Eagle Leather title last Saturday, April 8. They were (from left) first runner-up Jay Cain, winner Fred Wehman, Brody Hyde and Don Pabros.

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, April 13

Mr. September 2001 will be chosen for the Bare Chest Calendar at the Powerhouse at 2100. Win \$100, fame, and do a community service.

The AIDS Emergency Fund annual dinner at the San Francisco Marriott tonight, with ducats going for \$100. Lots of people will be honored for their good deeds.

Weekend, April 14-16

Single Men's Weekend up at the Russian River. All sorts of activities at almost all venues in Guerneville. Just go and check it out. Leave husband home, or find a new one.

In Los Angeles, the Regiment of the Black & Tans stage their annual "Maneuvers" weekend with lots of action all over L.A. County. Good weekend, always.

In Norfolk, Virginia, the Knight Hawks stage the Virginia Drummer Man and Drummer Boy contests in Norfolk and Virginia Beach. Last year's winners went on to win the International Drummer and Drummer Boy titles (Fraser Picard and Woodie Barnes). For more info click on knight606@aol.com.

Saturday, April 15

The annual Golden Dildeaux Awards by the Golden Gate Guards MC takes place at the Eagle at 2100. Some 22 wooden statuettes will be given out to those who have been "naughty" and sex-driven. Lenny Broberg and Donna Sachet will emcee. There will be 22 categories. Don't you dare miss this one! Vote early and often.

In Boston, Mr. Boston Leather 2000 will be

chosen at the ever popular Boston Ramrod. The action begins at 2200.

Sunday, April 16

Inter-Club Fund's first annual Bike Day 2000 begins with a bike blessing in front of Daddy's at 0900. Then depart for a motorcycle ride around SF Bay (bring cash for gas, tolls, lunch), returning in time for the Satyr's MC beer/soda bust at the Eagle from 1500 to 1800 for \$8. Meet Mr. Pistons Leather (Long Beach) and other LA County Icons.

At Daddy's, Rob Esmonde and Eric Keith sponsor a benefit for the AEF Cancer Fund with a \$7 beer/soda bust, raffle, and entertainment. Should be a hoot!

Wednesday, April 19

Leathermen's Discussion Group meets at 1930 at Club Eros with the topic: "Bondage: Alternatives to Rope," with Roger Burroughs and Peter Fiske. It's free.

Underwear Buddies flaunt their finery at 933 Harrison St. tonight. Sashay in your skivvies and turn on fetshists! You know the rules. Check your clothes and butch it up in your tight whites!

Friday, April 21

"Cigar" party (White Owls?) at The Sling, 926 Natoma, with doors open from 2200 to 0200. \$12 donation. BYO beer/toys. For info dial up (415) 292-3275 or click on www.TheSlingSF.com.

The Exiles meet at 1930 at The Women's Building for a woman-as-boy discussion entitled, "Where The Boys Are". \$3 members, \$5 guests. Call 487-5170.

PORN

Charming our pants off

by John F. Karr

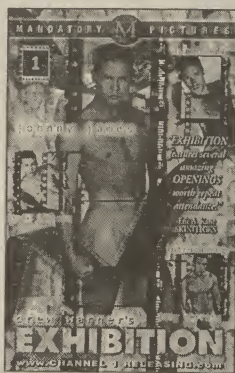
Here's a real novelty — a porn video that dares to underwhelm in its approach. It stands apart from that huff and puff and blow your house down school of porn. Even its music is of a type unheard in other videos. Yet it certainly gets where you want a porno to go: the first sex sequence stars Blake Harper at his typical deep-lovin', long- and slow-stroking best. It's just that where most porn wants to be a fast ride in a souped-up hot rod, and forget the shock absorbers!, this one aims at a quiet, cushioned ride in a luxury sedan.

Exhibition tells us it's a little different at the very start. For one thing, it starts in black and white. We're at an art gallery, where a small jazz combo provides the suitably classy music for an opening of a photo show.

Casually dressed young men (and a few women) sip white wine and look at the photographs. And, shyly, shyly, at each other. Eyes connect, and the scene dissolves into

full color for the following morning, on a summery porch where a pretty lad sips his morning coffee as Blake Harper casually caresses his nipple. They kiss and caress unhurriedly, but before long, Blake is suavely guiding his cock into the boy's mouth.

Things are getting pretty juicy now, with a lot of display of Harper's tasty cock, maximized in size and hardness by expert videography. You'd expect the music to change as the scene picks up steam, from the subtle jazz waltz



of the art gallery to some porno movie thump-thump. Well, it doesn't. It takes a while before you realize you're actually listening to non-porno kind of music here. So it's cocktail party stuff, but what a relief. And then, how groovy. Finally, how elegant.

And that's how it goes, in this confidently made charmer by director Drew Warner. He's young, still in his 20s, and he's making some interesting videos. In *Exhibition*, the sex is as stimulating as any you'll find elsewhere, but it's delivered with a soft sell that is practically unique. I found the approach quite refreshing.

I'm skipping over Harper here, or I'd spend far too much time drooling over his fucking technique, which exploits the full length of his cock, with variances of depth and speed of thrust. He sure knows how to pleasure a

guy, and takes his time. The second scene brings us a trio of freshmen buddies in an outdoor shower, while the third finds Logan Reed and partner rumpling some designer sheets. Then it's time for Damien Ford, a sophisticated-looking man who's perhaps the only porn star I fantasize about seeing in a three-piece suit. He looks like a Hugo Boss model, and I love a man in a three-piecer. Ford doesn't wear anything here, except his gaunt, worldly expression, and the three-piecer he flaunts at a younger boytoy is two balls beneath his meaty mancock. The finale finds hunky Johnny James, as the artist whose work is being displayed at the gallery, slipping out of the opening into a side-room for an on-the-spot tryst.

The look of the video's assorted studmuffins — moussed hair, natural builds, vibrant health, lotsa teeth — is right out of the Abercrombie & Fitch catalogue, although you won't find these big hard-ons in there. The look of the video is pretty slick too, with some scenes, especially the Damien Ford coupling, looking like a Jonathan Black photograph come to life. There's a brief return to the art gallery between each scene, and the casually swinging music remains the same throughout, helping to maintain the beguiling, lazy mood, even when the action heats up. There's a nifty cooling off, too: when the final scene has ended, and the partners are in mid-kiss, the scene freezes, and turns to black and white. The camera pulls back, and we see the scene turned into a photograph at the art gallery. And then we realize that all the photos in the exhibition are of the sex scenes we've watched in *Exhibition*. A snappy ending hidden in the snapshots. ▼

Karnal Knowledge

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

The weekend before that, in Syracuse, the new Mr. Mr. Western New York was named: Robert Gasser. Hank Albrecht won the first runner-up spot, while Michael Erp came in as second runner-up.

American brothers

Three major leather titles will be won at American Brotherhood Weekend in Washington, D.C., the weekend of April 28-30. That's the same weekend the ill-conceived Millennium March on Washington will be staged, but few leather people will bother to participate in that nonsense.

The host hotel is the Washington Plaza and at this point in time, the VIP package is a nifty \$100 for a myriad of activities including the American Leather Man, American Leather Woman, and American Leather Boy contests. One of the highlights of the weekend is the VIP Reception to be held at the home of that wealthy matron Mary Elizabeth Boyd in suburban Arlington. Most of the competition takes place in the afternoon on both Saturday and Sunday, so you can carouse around the capital in the evenings.

Scott Reikofski, Schelli Dittman and Jerry Acosta will step aside from the titles that weekend and let's face it, a happy title holder is a productive title holder. The winners of the three titles will each receive a \$2000 travel fund as well as other prizes. I'm happy to join the judging panel for this



Int'l. Ms. Leather Pam Meyer recently posed with her pooches for the back cover of *On Our Backs*, now out on newsstands.

year's competition: San Francisco's Philip Turner; Int'l. Ms. Leather 87 Judy Tallwing McCarthy of Tehuya, WA., Int'l. Ms. Leather 95 Pat Baille of Albuquerque, NM and Scott Rodriguez, co-owner of The Cuff in Seattle. The outgoing ABW title holders will also be on the panel. For more info, email: AbleProd@borg.com.

Unwarranted dish

Last week an unfounded trash email went flying all over the area, contending that our current San Francisco Leather Daddy, André English, has been doing less than a good job with the title. Excuse me?

Obviously somebody isn't

playing with a full deck of cards, and I'm not referring to André. The person who sent that email and made such unfounded statements must be in complete isolation, crazy, or just plain vicious.

I will not go into the details, because the perpetrator would love nothing more than to make this a cause célèbre. That will just not happen.

How do I know? Almost 100 leather people in the SF Bay area were polled over the weekend, and André received a 100-percent "excellent" rating for all his fundraising and community participation to date. The person who started this email bull should be tarred and feathered. You know who you are! ▼

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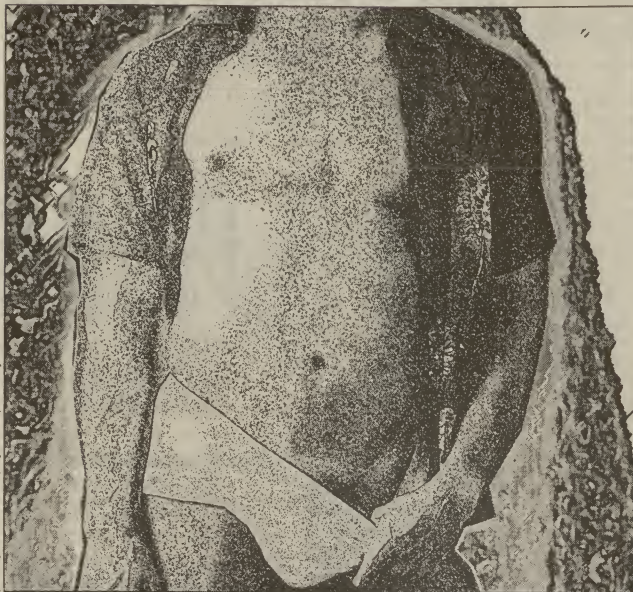
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Wed. April 19th

UNDERWEAR BUDDIES

BAR TALK

photo by Steven Underhill; digital manipulation by Mike Harrison



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PARTING GLANCES

Thursday Night 3/9 2:30am
On Diamond Street near the park... You in a silver SUV, me reading on the doorstep. I'd like to meet you again. S 71725

Wed. March 22 Rockridge Bart
You: black shirt, jacket and jeans, prematurely white hair. I'm confused by your ring. You knew I was interested. You flashed a dazzling smile and spoke as you detoured. 71764

Wed Mar 29 Symphony & N-Judah
Lots of eye contact. Me w/s on both dark suits. You maroon sweater w/ friend in suit. If not lovers, let's talk & more. Call me. 71788

Bob Of Westlake Have Glory
Hole 4 u in my basement, massage room. Call me 4 hot mouth BJ, u have my number, Jack. 71789

Thur 3/30 9am-18th & Diamond
Me: catching eastbound muni #33. You: getting into SUV, smiled, said too bad I wasn't going up the hill. Wish I had. You can give me a ride anytime! 71790

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Handsome GWM
34yo, 5'10", 160lbs. Interested in meeting a 30-45yo Japanese or Chinese gentleman for friendship/dating. Glasses a plus. 71700

Passionate Sensual Bottom
GWM 35, HIV+, Br/Hzi, 170, 6'1". Seeks 35-45yo tops, HIV+, wanting to be fuckbuddies. A great humor, outlook a must. Wanting mutual man to man sex. 71705

Bear Bottom Seeks Bear Top
Hairy GWM academic, 60, short, stocky, muscular legs, responsive nips (suck,pinch) hungry hole, thirsty throat, craves thick dick, HIV-, brain & brown A+ for LTR. 71702

Hot French Love
French guy in 30's or 40's desired for more than friendship by hung romantic blue eyed European in 30's. 71727

My Reward For Great Blow Jobs!
You shoot your max with my nimble tongue working under your glans—more for me to savor. 71792

Handsome 50+
GWM, 51, handsome, Italian, hairy seeks friends, dates, romance. Live in East Bay but interested in all. 71706

Looking for my Soulmate
Shy HIV-, NS, GM, 33, 5'9", 160lbs. Not into bars or drugs. Seeking a clean cut HIV- NS fit partner under 50, for friendship, dating and a future together. 71704

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino, 34yo, dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, professional looking for GWM between 26-45yo for friendship. Me: Like to go to movies, dinner, travel, hiking, biking etc. Call me.... 71703

Attention
SYBM, 6'3", strong build, sincere, intelligent, loving and incarcerated. My past is not my potential. ISO; Loving, outgoing, sincere Jewish, Asian, Latin feminine oriented male 4 companionish. 71707

GWM, 5'4" 158lbs. 32w Bid.
Blue eyes wears glasses. Average build uncut n/s n/d HIV- ISO Latino or Bk in good shape & health. I love kissing. 71765

Seeking Hispanic/Blond Blue8-21
I'm Hispanic, blk, hr, brn. eyes olive complexion, 24yrs. 157lbs. HIV-. Considered good looking comments made. Prefer significant other/friends HIV- No overweights/fems. 71728

Good-Hearted Asian Top Wanted
Big WM bottom 6'3" 280lbs looking for Asian top. Likes: classic movies, reading, working out and quiet times with a good person. Looks not important, heart is. Honest & sincere. 71771

Love me Tender I'll be Only 4 you
I'm 36, 5'5" 142lbs. Latino, hot, horny, clean, educated, stable, nice tool 8". HIV+ healthy, masculine, seeking GM under 41 for romance. 71729

What Matters Comes After Sex
My penis and frame are small. My heart is big and my spirit universal. I'm cute, compassionate, honest, HIV+, loyal, smart, funny, stable, and a sturdy 51. I return calls. 71730

Black Seeks Cute White Guy
I'm 27, handsome, 5'10", slim, muscular body, seeking cute clean shaven slim caucasian 5'8" to 6', masculine with fair skin and eyes for sincere dating 18-45 student/professionals. 71731

Handsome Muscular Italian
40, 6'2", 185lbs, into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times seeks another HIV negative extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship. 71701

Latintized WM Top ISO LM/AM/BM
Spirited, spiritual, passionate men of masculine strength/softness (muscularly defined, very in-shape 5'6", 145lbs, 30" w, HIV-, 48) seeks masculine toned sparky, affectionate bottom or versatile LM/AM/BM under 5'9". 71732

Handsome GBM
39yo GBM, 6'3", 185lbs, lean swimmers build, prof. vers. top, HIVneg, safe, ISO hdm, gym-toned male any race HIVneg, 30-45, for dating and possible LTR. 71733

Leather Dad ISO Boy
Intelligent, maso DM WM 57, 6', 225, ISO fit white or Latino boy for play & LTR in Oakland dungeon/playroom. 71734

SF Senior Seeks Younger Man
GWM, 76, 165, seeks attr, honest, sincere, submissive 18-45yo man for ongoing sex. I'm dominant but loving, caring and respectful. Open to LTR with right man. 71735

Seeking Matured Man
Searching for matured man late 50's to 60's, weight proportioned to height that would enjoy being serviced periodically. No reciprocation necessary. Must have your own place. 71736

Just A Call Away
GWM, 42, 6'2", 200lbs, HIV-, S&P hair, grn eyes, handsome, seeks prof. interested in travel, music & entertaining. HIV- only pls. Let's chat. 71737

More Than Just Another Hot Man
Goodlooking masculine professional GWM 40, 5'10", 190, 46c 31w 17arms seeks buddy into camping, hiking, photography for friendship, and possibly more. Not into drugs, booze. Serious replies only. Won't be sorry. 71766

Earth And Sky
I'm GWM, HIV-, creative, sexual; friendship, outdoor adventure, metaphysics, contrasts, dirty levis, natural ranch, ws, scat, 20-50, GJM or other communication freedom, home-loving outings; honesty chemistry, respect essential. 71767

Are You Grmini
Mr. Too. nice guy, 44yo, 5'7", 150# br eyes, balding w/goatee. HIV-. Professional guy. Looking for LTR w/sincere, romantic man. Let's meet or coffee. 71768

Dominant Seeks Submissive
Interests: nature, architecture, music, art. Sex: fucking, butt-play, role-play, w/s. I'm a young, attractive 44, 5'10", 175lbs. br/bl, moustache/goatee. Seek responsible, 30-48yrs, h/wt proportionate, facial hair preferred. 71769

I Like To Watch
Nice guy, goodlooking, 38, 160lbs. ISO sweet, sexy, quickwitted, mature guy. A fellow film enthusiast would be nice. Let's talk. 71770

Sexy & Passionate
Lean, 5'8", 30yo, GWM desiring to date masculine guy with same passion in life enjoying traveling, movies and sex- though got heaps of emotional energy for the right person! You should too. Interested? Call. 71772

An Ordinary Man?
I'm behind you in your face, close your eyes. Bewildering spontaneous, pretentious and a smart ass to boot. Let me be your alibi, figure me out my friend. 71791

You Can't Fake A Kiss
Bruce, we met. It went well for a few days- We parted- come back to me daddy- You're all the man I'll ever need. 71793

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Bi-Curious White Knight
Sexy 41yr. HIVneg, and ready for intimate play; tongue and hot sex after work at my apt in SF. 71708

Private Gloryhole
Seeking male under 45 for oral worship- must be disease/drug free/ in shape. Discretion guaranteed. No reciprocation necessary. Call today. 71709

Like To Suck Cock & Get Fucked
GWM 5'11", 175lbs, HIV-, NS, ND, I like to suck cock 6" to 8". Play with your ass and balls and get fucked while watching video's. Please call, race & age no factor. 71710

Excellent In Bed Is Here!!!!!!
Want to experience the best sexual fantasies in your life? Call me. You-age 18-45, Black, Latino or White. Me- always hot, horny and hungry for men. 71711

Rim Job For Asian By Hot WM
30yo, 5'10", 160#, muscles, 8" cut, clean stud top wants to rim & fuck young smooth Asians - Weekdays. 71712

2 Tops For Asian Or Latino
GLM, 24, 9" uncut & GWM, 34, 8" cut seek hot young slim smooth Asian/Latino bottoms in SF to service our 17" of prime manmeat, weekdays. Are you ready??? 71713

There's Never Enough! Feed Me!
HIV- (38) handsome, submissive, eager, deep throated cock sucker available for your pleasure. ISO HIV-, masculine to 30-55. 71714

Submissive Black Bottom
Hot mouth deep throat seeks verbal top who likes for a guy to kick back weekends & some evenings. 71715

Shut up.....And Ride!!!!!!
WM 35yo, 5'10", 200lbs, bl/bl muscle guy wants goodlooking masculine men to fuck. Also love to get massaged & jerked off. Anytime. 71716

Wanted: Big Dicks
Goodlooking white guy, 38, 185lbs and 6ft. Seeks well hung studs to service. All nationalities welcome, but please, nobody over 40. 71717

Oil Turns Me On
36.5 10 180 GWM in good shape, looking for men into oily massage & sex, no attitude, race Human, humor can't hurt. 71745

Handsome GWM-Cancer-42 HIV+
Healthy 6', 160lbs, buzz cut, tats, active monogamous, achiever, believer, kisser, plisser, dreamer, reamer, sucker, fucker, farmer, charmer, smoker, toker, drinker, stinker, horseman, carpenter, gardner. 71725

Hairy Top Stud
Me: 39, 170#, 5'9", buzzcut, stache, muscular hairy chest, 8" cut, poz, aggressive, passionate total top; you: GWM, attractive, under 45, slutty, nasty bottomboy, eager to please horny daddy. 71738

Dominant Gentle Seniors
ISO slightly dominant but gentle, affectionate seniors 60+ who want sensual oral pleasure by a WM 44, 6', 160lbs, dk hr. husky, beard, groups a +, kink optional but no S&M, pain. 71740

Shoot Your Load On My Face
If you're 65+ with a full load, this straight mature WM wants to get on my knees watch you JO. See, feel your hot cum on my face. 71741

Strip For Daddy
Husky, E. Bay Daddy, 56, ISO son, 25-35. Show Daddy and Daddy will kiss it. NS, ND, no perfumes, sweaty ok. 71742

Cumshot Video
Hot 30yo exhibitionist seeking hung, hot open-minded men who consistently shoot much larger than average loads for a video project. Your cumshot my face. Serious only please. 71743

Grandfather Complex Anyone???
Lay down the law to this WWII vet by enjoying my expert mouth and tongue. Ass and assorted kink if desired. Sexual surrender offered to hunky top, any race Berkeley. 71744

18-30 Latinos Wanted
Seeking Latin me. you can be short or tall, a homeboy or cholo. Prefer smooth and uncult, shy, stocky. I have a thing for underwear, kissing and passion. 71746

Need Muscular Oral Tops
I'm looking to service good looking in shape guys. I'm 36, 5'6", 130lbs, clean cut, clean shaven, muscular, hairy chest. I like getting on my knees and taking orders. 71748

My Hand..... Your Dick.....
Intense oral hand & mouth, willing to workover for your cock & balls. Your hard dick will gush w/relief at my coaxing, always free no fee— your place. 71750

Black Dad Seeks.....
Dominant, white, hairy, hairy, tall, top son (21-35) with clean, tight edible butt; big, cut cock. Dad: 40's, trim, wants to give oral pleasure or spanking. Dark hair A-. 71751

Looking for the Ultimate
Cocksucker for my big dick. Like it for a long time. Like deep throat. Attitude, energy, enthusiasm most important. Age, looks, race, not. 71752

Hot Top Hung 8" Seeks Bottoms
For fun. I am 5'8", 160lbs, work out, hairy chest, blond, HIV-, 39, and handsome. You are sincere, friendly and want to play. 71753

Asian Master Wants Slave
Asian Master wants to dominate and beat up GWM. You must be more than 190# and can take some pain. 71754

Attn: Poz Arab-Amer Man Who
Had ad wanting dentured deepthroat expert. If you have a moustache, thick cock, hairy, built, call me. I'm tall, lean, furry, all man. 71773

Drill Me
GWM, 34, 6'1", 190# brown, green, glasses, pierced seeks hung tops 18-45 to fuck my ass. 42. Only hairy a plus. Weekdays, your place pref. Couples okay. 71774

Play Doctor
It's been a year since my last physical. Give me a complete, nude scam- playful or humiliating, you decide. I'm late 30s, br/bl hairy chest. 71775

My Ultimate Fantasy
Is serving as sex slave for two, hung, muscular tops: verbal abuse, bondage, watersports, role plays, double anal penetration. I'm 6' buff, masculine mid 40's White boy. Use me! 781777

Naked Ecstasy
Free erotic full body massage for lean tight-bodied guys 20 to early 40's masculine lean WM 42. Any race, short or tall, hairy or smooth. 71778

I Want To Be Your Cocksucker
White, 46, hairy, green eyes, brown hair, 5'8", heavy. Cocksucker. Ready anytime. Prefer Black and Latino. I just want to suck you off then you leave. 71779

Hot White Or Latino Bottoms
Are wanted by 56yr White top with big 9" cut cock. I want to fuck your hot ass. I'm 6'0" tall brn hair, brn eyes, glasses. You be 18-37 smooth bodied. 71776

BAR TALK

PERSONALS ARE FREE!

CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐
Seeking Relationship ☐
Seeking Adventure ☐
Lesbian ☐
Fetishes ☐
Couples ☐
Others ☐

Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. One ad per customer per week.

Name _____ Daytime Telephone _____
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Nipple Boy ISO Pec Daddy
30+ romantic butch GH seeks 40+ affectionate GW muscle top to lick worship titillate. Poz pref. ☎ 71739

Submissive for Hairy Master Type
GWM, 5'11", 145, 40, blobofu, expert oral slave, cocksucker, butt eater (got chair) piss boy, body worshipper & licker pitt sucker etc. Take me as your own service pig for hairy man who feels his power as I do. ☎ 71747

Latino Seek Gay Black Men
Age 39, 5'5", versatile, seeking GBM, 30-45 for hot and romantic sex encounters. ☎ 71749

Front And Rear Oral Service
By eager GWM, 38, 5'8", 125#, gym toned. Into sucking, rimming, drinking piss. You: looking for service, White/Latino. Please be in shape. ☎ 71780

LESBIAN

Seeking Lesbian
GWM European 24 seeks Lesbian to share experience. ☎ 71781

Hugs And Kisses For You
My arms hold what the world lacks. Me: attractive, top, 46, 6'5", 250lbs, husky. You attractive GM (White, Asian, Latin), slim, smooth/moderate body hair, nice buns. Good kisser a plus. ☎ 71794

Cocksucker Takes
Hot mouth in tongue on your big cut cock in balls. 4 in-shape WM, married, single, bi, gay, straight your place/mine. ☎ 71795

Top White Boi Wants Asian
Bottom to service big dick. Am 30, cute, clean, fling top. Enjoy servicing my dick suck it & sit on it. S.F. Weekdays. ☎ 71796

Mid Peninsula Asian Cocksucker
42, 5'11", 185 likes giving head to guys under 45 with average boners w/no reciprocation, at your place. ☎ 71797

Mendocino Latin Bottom
33 very handsome 160lbs. 5'6", brown hair, clean cut, straight acting, deep throat, hot ass, seek well hung top. Dtno. ☎ 71798

GWM Seeks Black Exhibitionist
32yo GWM seeks handsome hung Black stud who will jerk off while I watch up close and personal. ☎ 71799

Black & White
Southbay, sensuous, hot, early 50's, safe, uninhibited, shaved, seeks photographer into black & white, for photo sessions, indoor/outdoor, will travel. ☎ 71800

FETISHES

2-3 Masochistic Subs Needed
For private birthday surprise for hot sadistic Dad. What can you take? Beating? Whipping? CBT? Clothespins? Heavier the better. Absolutely no pushy/controlling bottoms! ☎ 71718

Naked Bear-on-Bear Rasslin!!!
Strong hairy-muscled skinhead bear ISO other hairy-muscled bears for naked rasslin. Limits respected but Rough and Dirty. Your rules or none; playful rattle or UFC slugfest. Gr-rrrrr!!!! ☎ 71719

Tom Is A Cute Little Pig With...
A voracious appetite for scat. I love to watch him chow down as some handsome hunk feeds him. If you're a star quality exhibitionist, try this. ☎ 71760

This Italian Loves Cheese
Bi Bottom 38, in San Jose seeks straight acting whites, Latinos, Blacks, 18-45 to clean your uncult dicks. Also into W/S, scat, sucking. No recip. needed. ☎ 71720

Young Slave For Dog Training
Very cute 26yo/ submissive boy from Eastern Europe wants to be fully dog-trained by demanding dog trainer under 37. Full cooperation and obedience guaranteed. ☎ 71721

Daytime Asshole-Eater!!!!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 71723

******* Exhibitionist Pair *******
He - boyish hung showoff w/huge spandex undies collection. Me - biker/bearish videographer seek like minded guys with new SF locations for BULGE and COCK worship scenes. ☎ 71724

Looking for the Ultimate Pig
Goodlooking, smooth, muscular, young top seeks human toilet (weekly feedings). New to scene but you won't be disappointed. Take care of my needs and this hot body is yours. ☎ 71755

True Cocksucking Confessional:
This addict maximizes your production with creative head. Bigger loads off your mind for you. Yummler than caviar for me. Triple treat (uncult combo). ☎ 71803

Foot Fetish
Looking for foot lovers to massage my feet.(size 9). ☎ 71757

Bondage Toys SM Can Be Fun
With this hot, smooth, muscular 33yr old top. Enjoy wonderful, sweet agony of being bound, controlled, stimulated and submitting to an experienced leather top.(or tops) after a thorough training. ☎ 71756

Former Self Sucker
Slim Daddy type, beard, moustache (whose body's no longer flexible enough) would love to watch you blow yourself If this is your favorite sexual activity. ☎ 71758

Tit Play
Long time nipple freak, playful, oral, verbal, 5'4", 140lbs, 50, with big swollen nipples and an eager mouth and hands. Looking for other big nipples men for mutual pleasure. ☎ 71759

Discreet Freak
You: like it wet, raunchy asshole, funky underwear, low hanging balls, 9"to10" cock, versatile 25-50. Me: BM, 39, 6'1", 175lbs, 9"cut, handsome, versatile, let's get each other off. ☎ 71761

Brown And Yellow
Brown and yellow hankies, right side, is my style. Being relaxed and pleased in those ways is yours. Tireless hot mouth and tongue. Invite me to hot dinner or lunch. ☎ 71782

Foot Worship: Foot Rubbing
Mutual foot contact toe wrestle, GWM, 37 seeks similar for foot play. ☎ 71783

Where To Go
To suck dick on Mon/Tues/Wed when Blow Buddies is closed? Mid-aged guy, beard, moustache, balding, craves studly cock. ☎ 71784

Muscle Worship
Gdkg- in shape aggressive slave for body builders. Must be muscle gods with arrogant masculine attitude & aggressive. Can travel S.F., Reno, Sac., Lake Tahoe. ☎ 71786

LTH Son Seeks 2 LTH Granddads
Blond botticker 45/HIV-/ss into s/m, b/d, w/s will give anal/oral service to 2 hot, hung tops, 65+ Do me dadies! ☎ 71801

ISO Jockstraps & Foreskin
GWM 46 daddy type ISO younger uncult boy with a dirty jack and mind into mutual sucking, rimming, j.o. Video's, sweat, role play, toys, underwear, anything goes. Relationship possible. ☎ 71805

I Love Bigger And Better
That make it worth the time & trouble of sucking you all the way. Your tool will love the way I suck it. (uncult a plus) ☎ 71802

Very Thirsty Deep Throat
Expert has 6-pack for well endowed men who need sensual service. ☎ 71785

Eroticism In Bondage & S/M
G blonde & Asian couple, cute, muscular, 33 & 38, wishes to be stripped & tied up by G couple or single, under 40, submission, CBT & more, switch roles will be great. ☎ 71804

COUPLES

Are You Our Boy?
Daddy/Boy couple interested in including Boy/Slave in family. We enjoy life and having fun together. You should too. Be submissive, stable & fun. Take a chance Boy. ☎ 71762

Seeking A Real Slave/Boy
Couple looking for slave/boy to include in our family. We enjoy life, having fun, and togetherness. You are submissive, dedicated, and ready for fun. Check us out boy! ☎ 71787

Want To Watch??? Join In???
Two men in bare-back fucking. Dom has huge stiff uncult cock. Sub is older, eager to get worked over. Slick action. ☎ 71806

OTHERS

"Prefer A Homo-Sexual Male..."
Older straight white Englishman is available to be sodomized & beaten by dispassionate vigorous man. ☎ 71763

Bisexual Headm
Seeks all cummers, m or f, singles or couples. Friendships, fuckbuddies, lovers, smoke, drinks, music & camping. Long play sessions leather, w/s, b/d all. Pluses. Long haired horny bottom pig. ☎ 71807

I'm Looking To Keep Up My
Language practice. Intense French romantic GWM 30's desires French boyfriend. Charming, Wild. Magical. Not into "tricky French games." How can we meet? ☎ 71808

The Sexiest Guy In Town
Even the sexiest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. ☎ SAFE

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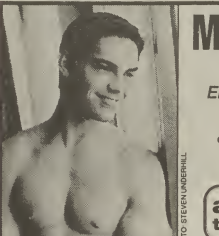
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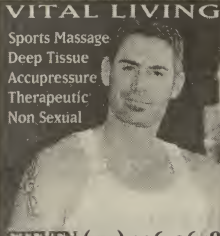
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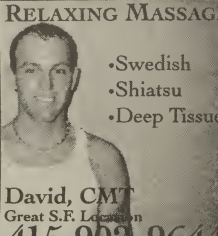
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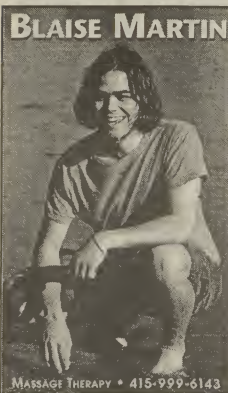
34yo, dark Blond/Blue, muscular
TALL BLOND 6'3"
Swimmer's build, hairy chest. Hot
Massage 415-449-5968 Out Only

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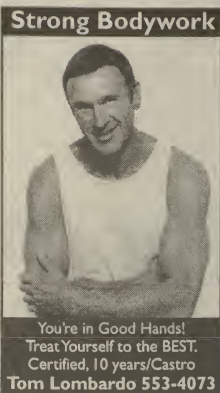
Colonics by a Hot Dad * 241-0567

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Cute blonde CMT gives Swedish/Deep
Tissue massage using table, hot oil.
(415) 929-9224 * Nob Hill

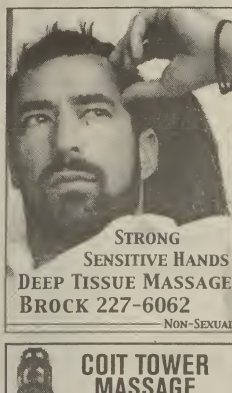
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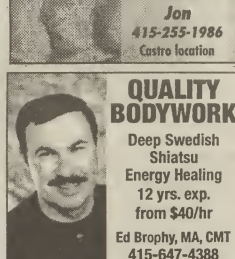
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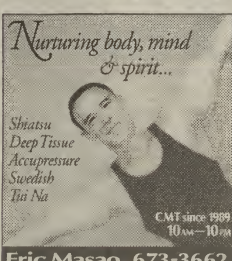
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• on table
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Jon
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Castro location



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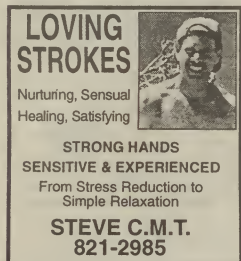
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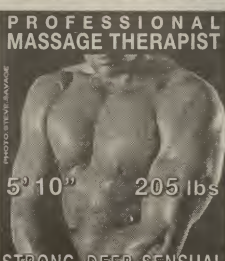
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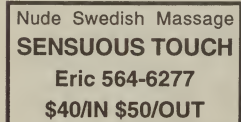
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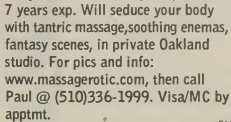
Nude Swedish Massage
SENSUOUS TOUCH
Eric 564-6277
\$40/IN \$50/OUT



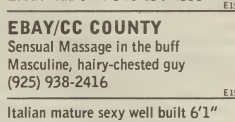
Tall, very handsome muscular 27
High quality Deep Swedish Massage
Derek * 377-4304. Late Calls OK. E15



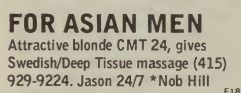
Relaxing & Sensual Massage \$40/Hr
5'8" 150 boyish 46" 333-3424 E15



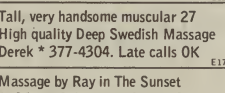
Body Electric CMT 34, 5'11, 145 Lbs
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Paul @ (510) 336-1999. Visa/MC by
apptmt. E15



NEXT
Erotic Nude CMT 510-839-1333 E15



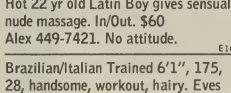
FOR ASIAN MEN
Attractive blonde CMT 24, gives
Swedish/Deep Tissue massage (415)
929-9224. Jason 24/7 * Nob Hill E18



Tall, very handsome muscular 27
High quality Deep Swedish Massage
Derek * 377-4304. Late calls OK E17



Awakened Release w/Derek, CMT
INTERACTIVE MASSAGE
\$50/75 min 415-255-1164 E16



Hot 22 yr old Latin Boy gives sensual
nude massage. In/Out. \$60
Alex 449-7421. No attitude. E16



Italian mature sexy well built 6'1"
178 feel good with deep sensuous rub
ew/wkend 807-9822 E16



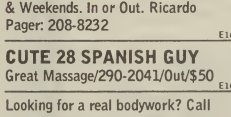
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Deep, rich, relaxing, strong,
therapeutic massage for in-shape guys
by 28 yr old Spanish/French guy.
Student discounts & day/eve late nite
appts avail. Eric * 841-5870 E15



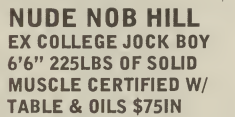
E. Bay Jock Italian, 6', 180 Lbs
Swedish Nude Massage 9AM-9PM
JOHN (510) 658-2437 E16



Incredible massage by tall Texas
charmer 6'6 195# 60/in 80/out
Attractive*Attentive*Affectionate
WAYNE*252-7443 E15



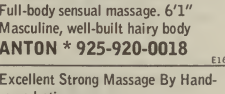
CUTE 28 SPANISH GUY
Great Massage/290-2041/Out/\$50 E16




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EX COLLEGE JOCK BOY
6'6" 225LBS OF SOLID
MUSCLE CERTIFIED W/
TABLE & OILS \$75IN
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415 225-7743 10A-10P E17



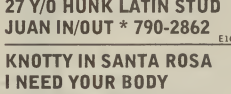
POWER BEAR MASSAGE
Tim, 6'2", 220# sensual, unrushed
body fulfillment 415-595-3564 E15



ITALIAN STUD
Full-body sensual massage. 6'1"
Masculine, well-built hairy body
ANTON * 925-920-0018 E16



FULL BODY MASSAGE
HOT GUY 510-232-3825 E16



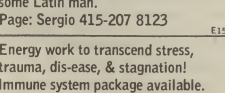
KNOTTY IN SANTA ROSA
I NEED YOUR BODY
CALL NEIL (707) 586-1826
CMT E16



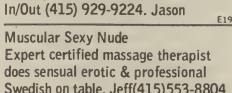
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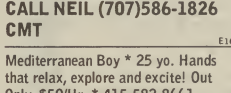
Relaxing &/or erotic by a very
smth nude masc Asian * 560-6353 E15



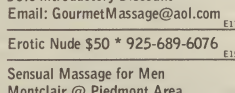
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trauma, dis-ease, & stagnation!
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Transformational! Rob 235-4269 E15



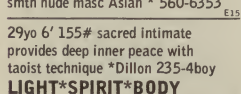
HOT NUDE STUD
6'2", 200, 32yr old. Gives hot nude
sensual massage. Ph. Anthony at
510-533-4398 E15



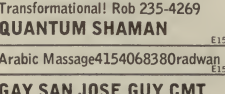
Soothing Deep Swedish Massage
by certified, experienced
professional in the Castro. Available
weekday evenings and on weekends.
Mark * (415) 861-5441 E15



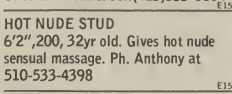
Erotic Nude \$50 * 925-689-6076 E15



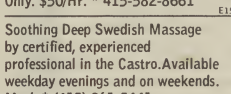
29yo 6' 155# sacred intimate
provides deep inner peace with
taoist technique * Dillon 235-4boy
LIGHT*SPIRIT*BODY E15



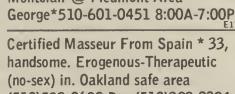
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Offers full body Swedish caring
massage in downtown home \$30/Hr
with lotion John (408) 273-7788 E15




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Full Body by yg Asian. Out Only.
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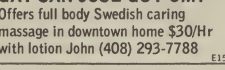
Get Under Me, and I'll Rub You
Right * Daniel 775-4623 E16



Sensual Massage for Men
Montclair @ Piedmont Area
George*510-601-0451 8:00A-7:00P E17



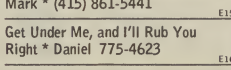
Simply no comarison. 792-8028
ASIAN GQ LOOKER E15



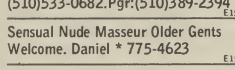
Sensual Nude Masseur Older Gents
Welcome. Daniel * 775-4623 E15



Sensual Massage for Men
Montclair @ Piedmont Area
George*510-601-0451 8:00A-7:00P E17




Sensual Massage for Men
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George*510-601-0451 8:00A-7:00P E17



Sensual Massage for Men
Montclair @ Piedmont Area
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In/out
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CMT In/Out, hotels Welcome Duo
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Smooth Great Legs and Ass
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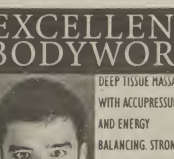
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Kimo - CMT/LMT
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Delivery 650-938-3728

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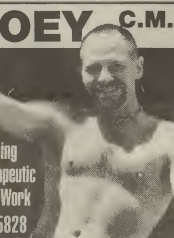
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Email: rentboy-sf-5@excite.com

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Fullbody Swedish Massage
by a hot Latin boy
45/hr incalls (415)346-0752 Timmy

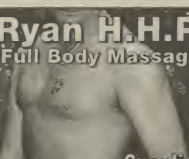
Cute Latin boy Eddy. Sensual, nude
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415-245-9721. Friendly

RUSSIAN RIVER MASSAGE
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nurturing healing sens relief.
Mike CMT 707-869-3236/696-5933

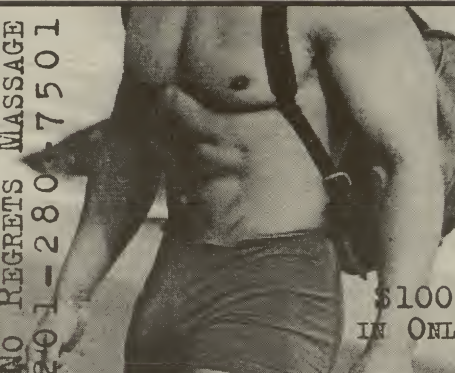
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yo man 24hrDwmtnSF 3982441Mark

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Erotic full body massage

RUSSIAN RIVER
By sexy well-built stud. \$45
Out extra 707-865-2093 *Bob

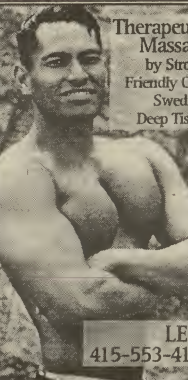
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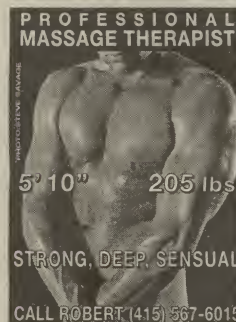
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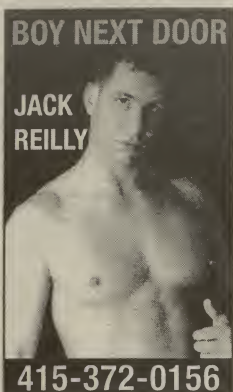


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5'11" 10#
of ripped muscle
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super sexy
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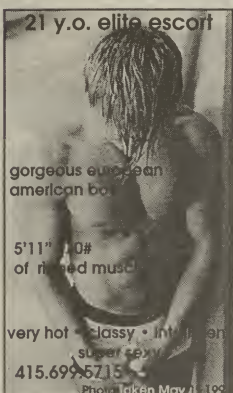


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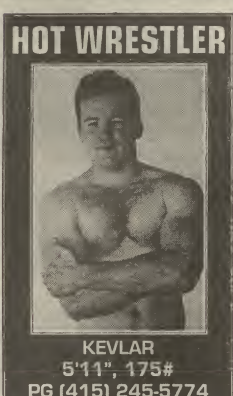
MODELS/ESCORTS



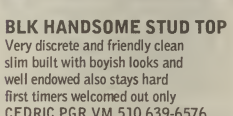
BOY NEXT DOOR
JACK
REILLY
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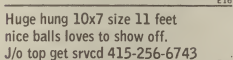
21 y.o. elite escort
gorgeous european
american boy
5'11" 10#
of ripped muscle
very hot • classy • intelligent
super sexy
415.699.5715
Photo Taken May 11 1999



HOT WRESTLER
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5'11", 175#
PG (415) 245-5774



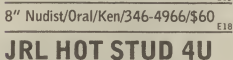
BLK HANDSOME STUD TOP
Lean, smooth leather top, 32
gives it like you need it.
Sm/bd/ft/ws, dog/slave training
PAGE JACK - 790-3312



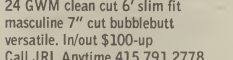
**9 REAL INCHES
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SIZE 12 FEET -HOT- TOP
Gd Lking Foot top 40yo, 6'1", 195#
Scott (415) 790-0902 In/Out calls



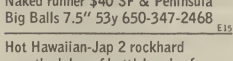
Check out BARTalk Page 46
Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs
ASIAN TOP
\$80/\$100 * JIM 267-1817



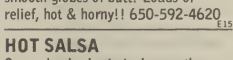
Mike, 35, 5'10", 200#, Bld/Blu
Clean-cut, Muscle Hunk
In/Out \$100 (415) 863-8932



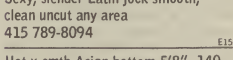
LEATHER/SM/FANTASY
40yo top 6'1", 195# 7" uncult, flattop
Gd lking into bondage, s/m, w/s,
f/f, cbt, violet wand, toys, boots.
Beginner? Have playspace & equip.
Scott (415) 790-0902 Pg# In or Out



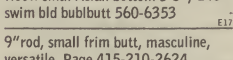
Be the happiest man alive 792-8028
CUTE ASIAN BOY
5'7" 135# sexy, slim, smooth 908-8888



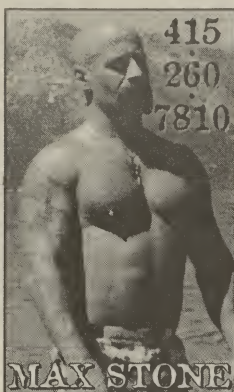
ASIAN PORN STAR
Hot, horny, handsome \$65in/\$85out



Hot x-smth Asian bottom 5'8", 140
swim bld bubbbutt 560-6353



9"rod, small firm butt, masculine,
versatile. Page 415-210-2624.



415
260
7810
MAX STONE



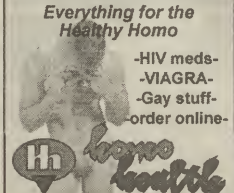
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FARMBOY**
6'3 Butch Top In/Out
STEVE (415) 313-4041



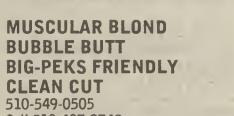
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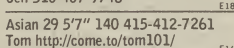
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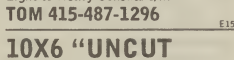
Asian 29 5'7" 140 415-412-7261
Tom http://come.to/tom101/



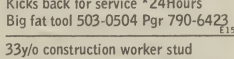
CREATIVE TOP
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open minded, bedroom eyes will give
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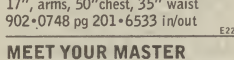
10X6 "UNCUT"
Kicks back for service *24Hours
Big fat tool 503-0504 Pgr 790-6423



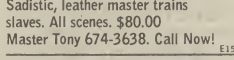
33yo construction worker stud
**HANDSOME BLUE-
EYED MAN**
w/thick hairy muscles 6'215#
17", arms, 50" chest, 35" waist
902-0748 pg 201-6533 in/out



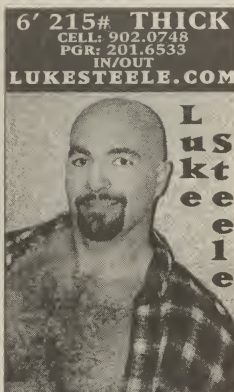
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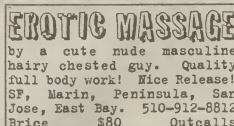
**BARTALK PERSONALS
ARE FREE** page 46



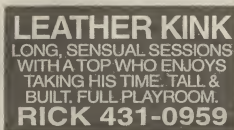
6' 215# THICK
CELL: 902.0748
PGR: 201.6533
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RICK 431-0959

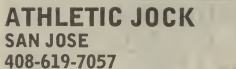


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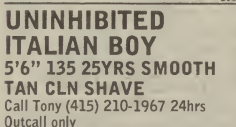
MODELS/ ESCORTS



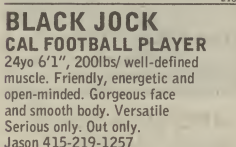
23 y/o 5'8", 140#
HUNG LATIN BOY
8 1/2x5 1/2 real inches
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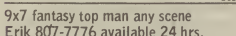
ATHLETIC JOCK
SAN JOSE
408-619-7057



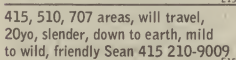
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ITALIAN BOY**
5'6" 135 25YRS SMOOTH
TAN CLN SHAVE
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Outcall only



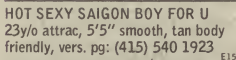
BLACK JOCK
CAL FOOTBALL PLAYER
24yo 6'1", 200lbs/ well-defined
muscle. Friendly, energetic and
open-minded. Gorgeous face
and smooth body. Versatile
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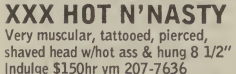
9x7 fantasy top man any scene
Erik 807-7776 available 24 hrs.



415, 510, 707 areas, will travel,
20yo, slender, down to earth, mild
to wild, friendly Sean 415 210-9009



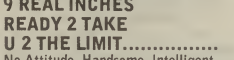
HOT SEXY SAIGON BOY FOR U
23yo attrac, 5'5" smooth, tan body
friendly, vers. pg: (415) 540 1923



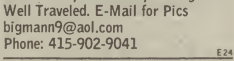
XXX HOT N'NASTY
Very muscular, tattooed, pierced,
shaved head w/hot ass & hung 8 1/2"
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WANT IT ROUGH?
Lean, smooth leather top, 32
gives it like you need it.
Sm/bd/ft/ws, dog/slave training
PAGE JACK - 790-3312



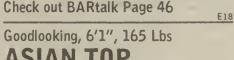
**9 REAL INCHES
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U 2 THE LIMIT.....**
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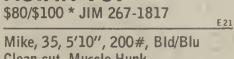
SIZE 12 FEET -HOT- TOP
Gd Lking Foot top 40yo, 6'1", 195#
Scott (415) 790-0902 In/Out calls



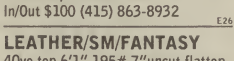
Check out BARTalk Page 46
Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs
ASIAN TOP
\$80/\$100 * JIM 267-1817



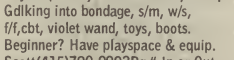
Mike, 35, 5'10", 200#, Bld/Blu
Clean-cut, Muscle Hunk
In/Out \$100 (415) 863-8932



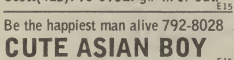
LEATHER/SM/FANTASY
40yo top 6'1", 195# 7" uncult, flattop
Gd lking into bondage, s/m, w/s,
f/f, cbt, violet wand, toys, boots.
Beginner? Have playspace & equip.
Scott (415) 790-0902 Pg# In or Out



Be the happiest man alive 792-8028
CUTE ASIAN BOY
5'7" 135# sexy, slim, smooth 908-8888



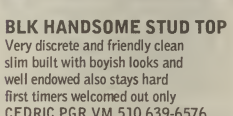
ASIAN PORN STAR
Hot, horny, handsome \$65in/\$85out



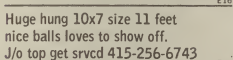
Hot x-smth Asian bottom 5'8", 140
swim bld bubbbutt 560-6353



9"rod, small firm butt, masculine,
versatile. Page 415-210-2624.



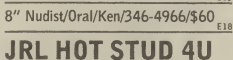
BLK HANDSOME STUD TOP
Lean, smooth leather top, 32
gives it like you need it.
Sm/bd/ft/ws, dog/slave training
PAGE JACK - 790-3312



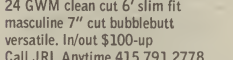
**9 REAL INCHES
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SIZE 12 FEET -HOT- TOP
Gd Lking Foot top 40yo, 6'1", 195#
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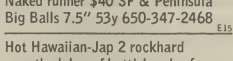
Check out BARTalk Page 46
Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs
ASIAN TOP
\$80/\$100 * JIM 267-1817



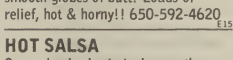
Mike, 35, 5'10", 200#, Bld/Blu
Clean-cut, Muscle Hunk
In/Out \$100 (415) 863-8932



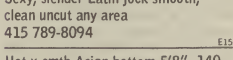
LEATHER/SM/FANTASY
40yo top 6'1", 195# 7" uncult, flattop
Gd lking into bondage, s/m, w/s,
f/f, cbt, violet wand, toys, boots.
Beginner? Have playspace & equip.
Scott (415) 790-0902 Pg# In or Out



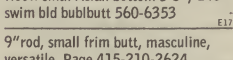
Be the happiest man alive 792-8028
CUTE ASIAN BOY
5'7" 135# sexy, slim, smooth 908-8888



ASIAN PORN STAR
Hot, horny, handsome \$65in/\$85out



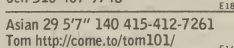
Hot x-smth Asian bottom 5'8", 140
swim bld bubbbutt 560-6353



9"rod, small firm butt, masculine,
versatile. Page 415-210-2624.



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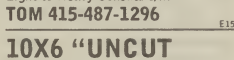
Asian 29 5'7" 140 415-412-7261
Tom http://come.to/tom101/



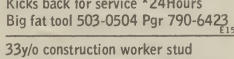
CREATIVE TOP
Very sexy, beautifully hung, educated,
open minded, bedroom eyes will give
you what you need & more 207-6486



LEATHER TOP!
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TOM 415-487-1296



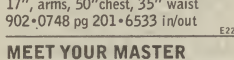
10X6 "UNCUT"
Kicks back for service *24Hours
Big fat tool 503-0504 Pgr 790-6423



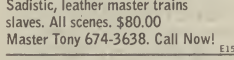
33yo construction worker stud
**HANDSOME BLUE-
EYED MAN**
w/thick hairy muscles 6'215#
17", arms, 50" chest, 35" waist
902-0748 pg 201-6533 in/out



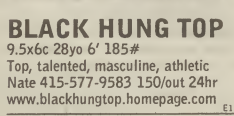
MEET YOUR MASTER
Sadistic, leather master trains
slaves. All scenes. \$80.00
Master Tony 674-3638. Call Now!



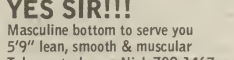
HOT ASS (510) 522-2269



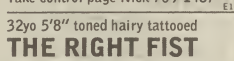
**BARTALK PERSONALS
ARE FREE** page 46



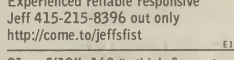
BLACK HUNG TOP
9.5x6c 28yo 6' 185#
Top, talented, masculine, athletic
Nate 415-577-9583 150/out 24hr
www.blackhungtop.homepage.com



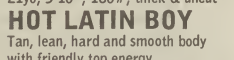
YES SIR!!!
Masculine bottom to serve you
5'9" lean, smooth & muscular
Take control page Nick 709-1467



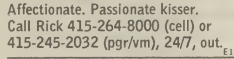
32yo 5'8" toned right tattooed
THE RIGHT FIST
Experienced reliable responsive
Jeff 415-215-8396 out only
http://come.to/jeffsist



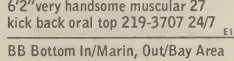
21yo, 5'10", 160#, thick & uncult
HOT LATIN BOY
Tan, lean, hard and smooth body
with friendly top energy.
Affectionate. Passionate kisser.
Call Rick 415-264-8000 (cell) or
415-245-2032 (pgr/vm), 24/7, out.



6'2" very handsome muscular 27
kick back oral top 219-3707 24/7



BB Bottom In/Marin, Out/Bay Area
Ted* (415) 459-3488



20YO BLONDE BOY
6ft 165 Smooth
Gym built and beautifully hung
Matt pgr: 560-7456



www.americanmale.net/California/Dil
lon.html All sorts of fun!!!!!!
Mild2wild! Ticklish! WS! In/Out
6'155# 7.5" Dillon 235-480Y cell/Vm

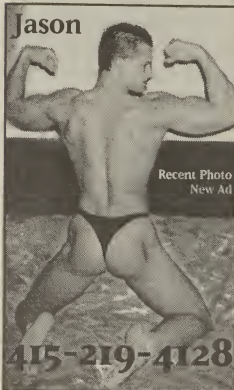


29YO BLUE-EYED SPIRIT

PERSONALS

MODELS/ESCORTS

Jason



Recent Photo
New Ad

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RV Exploring?

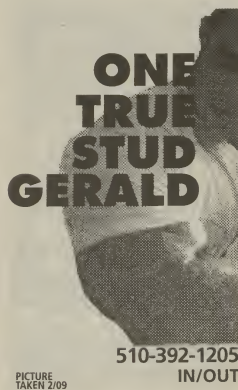
Size Matters
sexy•hard•raw•long•S&M
8x7 tool•top•safe•sane•
call Austin 415.861.7399

X-MILTRV BB



6', 190#, 30w, 48c, 16a
Paul (415) 225-9072
Massage Available

ONE TRUE STUD GERALD

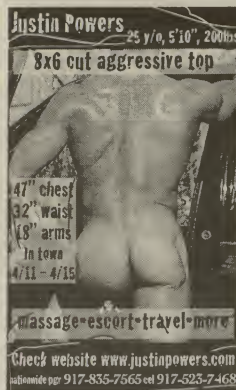


510-392-1205
IN/OUT

PICTURE TAKEN 2/09

Justin Powers 25 y/o, 5'10", 200lbs

8x6 cut aggressive top



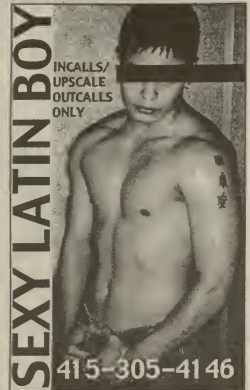
47" chest
32" waist
18" arms
In town
4/11 - 4/15

massage•escort•travel•more

check website www.justinpowers.com
admission per 917-835-7565 ext 917-523-7468

SEXY LATIN BOY

INCALLS/
UPSCALE
OUTCALLS
ONLY



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ADULT FILM
ENTERTAINER
ERIK MANN**



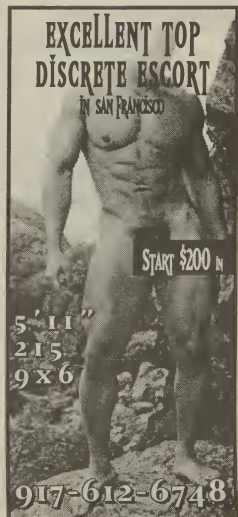
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5'11"
215
9x6

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**NYC BODYBUILDER
ESCORT**

In town April 21st-17th

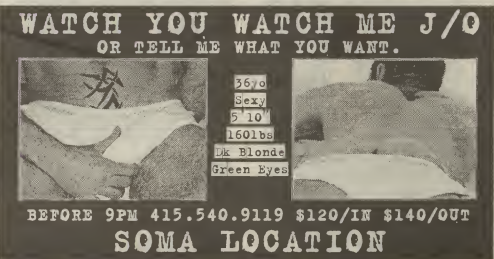
Second Model Available:
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30y/o 6'4"
257lbs
of hard muscle

52" chest,
33" waist,
19" arms,
9"x6" u/c
with a hard tight
Bubble-Butt
100% versatile
Call me!

917-749-4634 Cell
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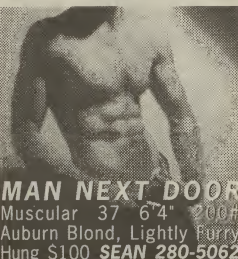
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OR TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT.



5'6"
Sexy
5'10"
160lbs
Blk Blonde
Green Eyes

BEFORE 9PM 415.540.9119 \$120/IN \$140/OUT
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Muscular 37 6'4" 200#
Auburn Blond, Lightly Furry
Hung \$100 SEAN 280-5062

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STANFORD WRESTLER**

50" CHEST • 20" ARMS • 30" W

RIPPED DEFINED ITALIAN BEEFCAKE CLASSIC FEATURES
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23yo Br/Br 5'8"145#Hairy Gymbod
JORDON
Sexy Versatile Italian 270-7875 E15

6'2" MUSCULAR HUNG 27
Very Handsome, clean-cut Kick
Back Oral Top 219-3707 late OK E15

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Live to service Men!
Discreet & Passionate In/Out
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5'8"/140# 21 Y.O. Bottom
*******BOYTOY*******
Oral, WS, \$120 SF Outcall699-7827 E15

Thick 'n Meaty, Big 'n Low-Hangin'
6', 27yo. Top for Oral Enthusiasts
ORAL ATTENTION
Needed today! Clint* 414-1030*
2nd std avail for Tag Team Fun. E15

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29, 5'10", 160 Buzzcut
Tight body, 6-Pack Abs, Blue Eyes
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Versatile, Friendly 902-9477 E16

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CUTE 26YR OLD
5'8", 135# smooth brown/brown
clean cut Chad (650) 755-2366
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\$60 Outcalls only Dave 503-1629 E15

6'2"very handsome muscular 27
Kick back oral top 219-3707 24/7 E15

Midwestern Boy 24yo wht 385-4824 E15

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In warm living flesh & hot for you!
Cleancut goodlooks. OUT 310-2930 E18

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You: massage small endowed hunk.
Enjoy yourself. Out 510/466-0455 E16

Hndsm hairy massively endowed
CHOKE ON THIS!
Hung 10x7 34 6" 150# runners bld
dominant mascln gentle strength
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100 in/more out. Ez freeway+bart.
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A master of the art of pleasure
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Masculine, goodlooking, solid,
6'1", 195, goatee, 30" waist, 44"
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6' 190# hairy solid top
B&D, CBT, TT, S&M, FF
your scene you name it
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"Skuff" Catalina's
"HomewardBound" Day rate until 6pm
24hrs. E15

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TIGHT, TONED BODY.
Masculine, intelligent, real.
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Italian stud, black hair brn eyes
6ft, swimmer's build, defined chest &
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Don't you want it now. 436-0402VM E15

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Stach, gotee, 6ft, 215lbs, brn, grn,
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one for you pg 560-1769 Tom E15

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24 HRS.
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s&m ok 415-372-0458 E15

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200lbs. body builder brn hr hzl
eyes, great tan, shaved body, easy
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for 24 hrs. Call me
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DADDYS HOME AND
Wnts Svc 6'1", 235#, Allmscl, Hry
Vry Hot, 8x7 Hole Lover, Page 227-7448 E15

ASIAN COLLEGE STUD
5'11" 167lbs 8" uncut, total top,
smooth torso, suave 415-251-0261 E18

BARTALK PERSONALS
ARE FREE page 46 E16

MODELS/ESCORTS

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—long, & slow—my specialty.
6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leatherplay.
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
Lord 431-0959

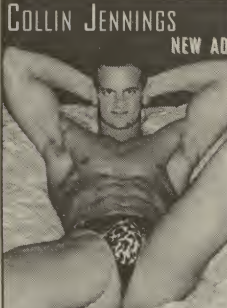
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Very Goodlooking, Blond,
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46" Chest / 32" Waist/Thick &
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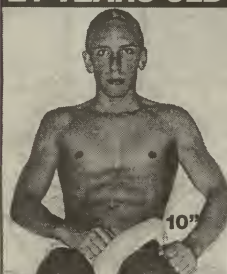
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5'8" 150#
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LOVES BEING ON
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WIDE!!!
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PIERCED • 6'1" • 155 • TLC

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TOP
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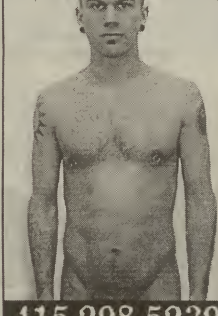


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CBT,
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Training.



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moustache,
7" Uncut.

Beginners Welcome
Have equipment and playspace.
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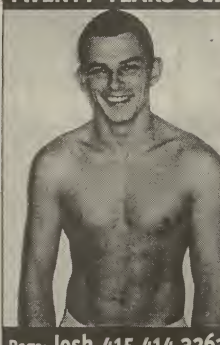
**UNINHIBITED
ITALIAN BOY**

5'6"
135#
25yrs

Smooth
Tan
Cln Shave

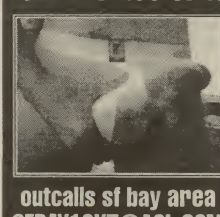
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TWENTY YEARS OLD



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TOM 415-256-6743



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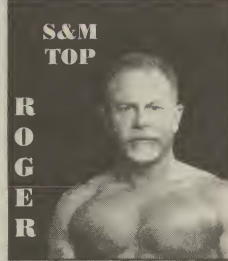


Oh Daddy!
10.5 x 7.5

6'3"
190
48

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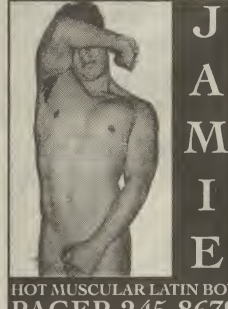
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Very friendly, Steve pgr. 253-2264

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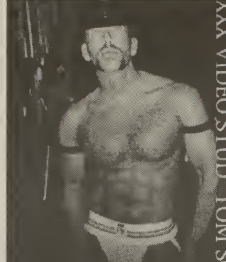
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Fantastic & outrageous \$40. 279 0533

THICK D*C#!
10X6UC BLND/HZL 33
GREAT BOD LOADS O'FUN
SCOTT 902-7378!

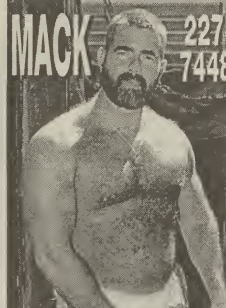
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a versatile top is what you need!
Handsome muscular hung 8 1/2 Italian
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let's rock! Tony 487-1959

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inches, not beefy, who loves to be on
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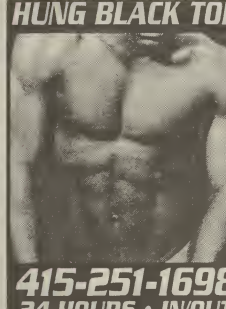


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HUNG STR8 GUY
New in town 22yo 5'9", very cute
Big fat 9" always rock hard
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24, 5'11", 165lbs, brn hr, grn eyes
ALL AMERICAN BOY
affectionate student, 8" cock
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smooth tanned swimmers build
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PERSONALS

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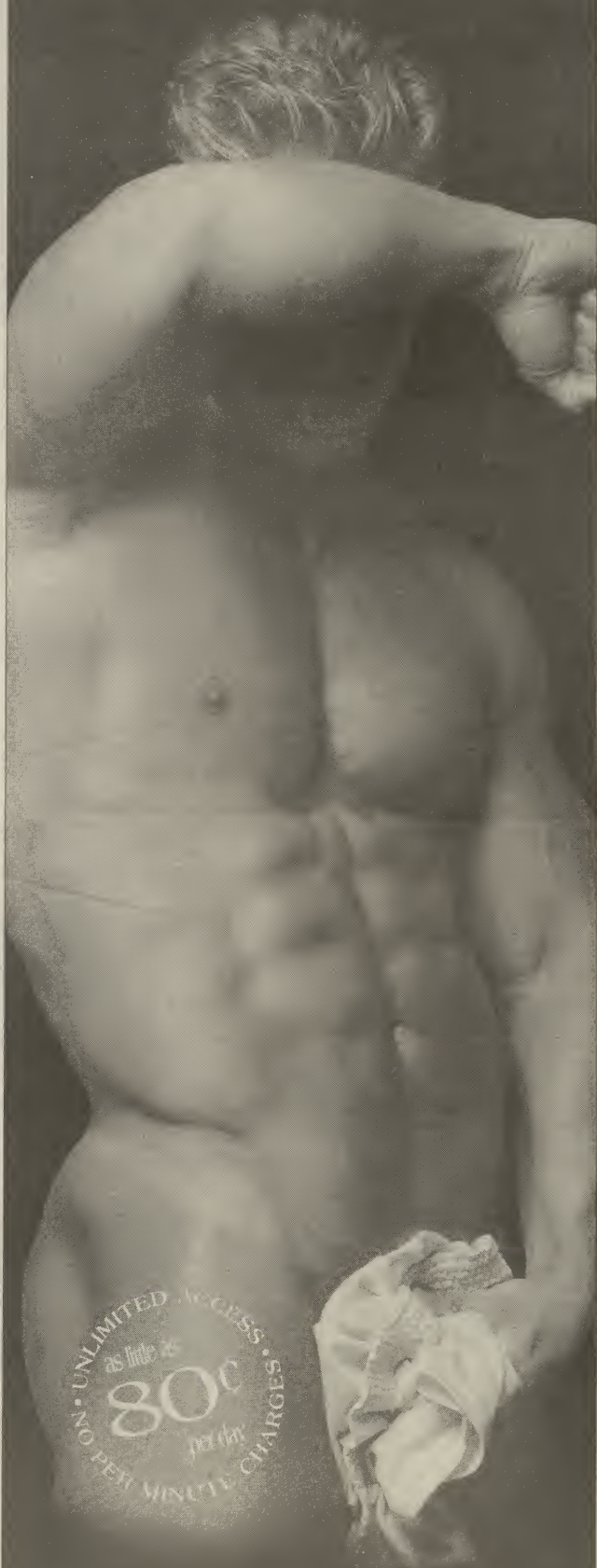
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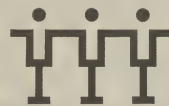
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